The Annie E. Casey Foundation

2009 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

State Profiles of Child Well-Being

Counting What Counts:
Taking Results Seriously
for Vulnerable Children
and Families

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Acknowledgments

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Designed by KINETIK
www.kinetikcom.com

Photography © Susie Fitzhugh

Data compiled by Population Reference Bureau
www.prb.org

Printed and bound in the United States of America on recycled paper using soy-based inks.

ISSN 1060–9814

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* could not be produced and distributed without the help of numerous people. The publication was assembled and produced under the general direction of Laura Beavers. Other Casey staff who contributed to this report include Tony Cipollone, Connie Dykstra, Florencia Gutierrez, and members of the KIDS COUNT team. Dick Mendel provided research and writing support.

Most of the data presented in the *Data Book* were collected and organized by the staff at the Population Reference Bureau. We are especially grateful to Jean D'Amico, Nadwa Mossaad, and Kelvin Pollard, who assembled, organized, checked, and re-checked the figures used here.

Special thanks are also due the staff at KINETIK Communication Graphics, Inc., for design and production services; the staff at Hager Sharp, for helping to promote and disseminate the *Data Book*; and Jayson Hait of eye4detail, for proofreading and copyediting.

Finally, we would like to thank the state KIDS COUNT projects (listed on page 139), for making the *Data Book* available to national, state, and local leaders across the country.

Permission to copy, disseminate, or otherwise use information from this *Data Book* is granted as long as appropriate acknowledgment is given.

The 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* can be viewed, downloaded, or ordered on the Internet at www.kidscount.org.

Outreach Partners

The Annie E. Casey Foundation wishes to thank our Outreach Partners for their support and assistance in promoting and disseminating the 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*. With the help of our partners, data on the status and well-being of kids and families are shared with policymakers, advocates, practitioners, and citizens to help enrich local, state, and national discussions on ways to improve outcomes for America's most vulnerable children.

To learn more about the Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2009 KIDS COUNT Outreach Partners, please visit www.kidscount.org for a complete list of organizations.

About the Photography

All of the photographs in the 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* were taken by photographer Susie Fitzhugh. Her photographs have been featured in half of our 20 *Data Books*, as well as in numerous other major publications by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Over the years, other contributing photographers have included Max Hirshfield, Lizzie Himmel, Carol Highsmith, Michael Cunningham, and Marvin T. Jones and Associates. We thank all of them for helping to put faces on the stories behind the data.

ESSAY

Counting What Counts: Taking Results Seriously for Vulnerable Children and Families

This year marks the 20th edition of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, the 20th time that the Annie E. Casey Foundation has amassed critically important data on the well-being of our nation's children and families into a single, easy-to-access volume that is now backed by an extensive online data system.

Our Foundation has invested millions of dollars over two decades not only to produce the annual KIDS COUNT volumes, but also to distribute them far and wide (more than 1 million copies to date) and to underwrite an array of advocacy efforts aimed at bringing these data to the public's attention and promoting appropriate policy responses.

The Casey Foundation has made these investments based on our conviction that data-driven decision-making offers a powerful—and sorely underutilized—tool to improve results for children. Results matter, and achieving positive results requires us to keep our eyes on the prize: carefully measuring the well-being of children; setting meaningful goals for their care and development; identifying those who are suffering or being left behind; strategically publicizing the performance of public programs; and maintaining society's focus on the evolving, objectively measured needs of the next generation.

Results always matter. But they take on added importance in this time of economic crisis. The combination of increasing joblessness and mushrooming home foreclosures is putting unprecedented pressure on millions of families. The threat is especially dire for children born to families mired in poverty, as well as for kids facing special risks, whose well-being depends on the quality of support provided by government-financed systems that are increasingly strapped for cash.

These challenging circumstances demand that we do more with less. They demand accountability. And at the heart of accountability, both literally and figuratively, is the word "count." Accountability requires counting.

In this 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* essay, we examine our nation's progress in this crucial counting process. How well are we as a nation, and in our states and communities, marshalling the available information to address pressing needs and create meaningful opportunities for vulnerable children? How well are we keeping track of children's well-being, measuring the impact of public programs, and holding ourselves collectively accountable for the healthy development of children? How effectively are we using new information technology to improve outcomes for those in need?

Although we see isolated advances, we mostly find that America's efforts on these fronts remain seriously wanting. This essay documents a persisting inattention to results in many services and systems designed to assist children and families, and an unfortunate array of missed opportunities to improve outcomes through better use of information and technology. Looking ahead, the Casey Foundation recommends a series of action steps to increase the quantity and quality of available data, better utilize data to improve policy and practice, hold public agencies accountable for results, and mobilize states and communities to take data-driven action on behalf of vulnerable children and families.

Despite the budgetary shortfalls facing all levels of government, now is the wrong time to scale back data gathering and analysis. Improving the volume and accessibility of good, timely, widely used, and easily understood data can lead to better-informed policies, more focused programming, and more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Better and better-used data can also provide the basis for a robust cycle of continuous improvement in our efforts to support children, families, and communities. Although some may argue the cost of this investment, it amounts to a tiny fraction of current public expenditures on children and families, with a potentially immense payoff in reduced waste and improved results.

"What gets measured gets done," says the old truism, and what gets measured and fed back gets done well. In these difficult times, with millions of children's well-being on the line, we simply must do a better job of counting what counts.

Twenty Years of Important But Insufficient Progress

Since KIDS COUNT was inaugurated 20 years ago, the United States has made noteworthy progress in the collection of data related to children and families, and our appreciation for data-driven policymaking has grown substantially. Evidence of this can be seen in the response to the KIDS COUNT initiative itself. In addition to distributing 1 million-plus copies of the national *Data Book* since 1990, the Casey Foundation and its partners have published more than 500 separate state-level data books and hundreds of briefs exploring the policy implications of KIDS COUNT data. Each year, our KIDS COUNT website receives hundreds of thousands of visits, from which users generate more than 1 million specific data tabulations.[1]

Surveys find that 75 percent of state legislators nationwide are aware of KIDS COUNT, and more than half say that they read KIDS COUNT reports and find the data useful and relevant. Likewise, surveys find high levels of awareness and appreciation for KIDS COUNT among business leaders, county officials, congressional staff members, and other data users.[2] The release of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* generates more than 1,000 news stories per year in newspapers with total readership exceeding 50 million, plus television news coverage seen by 15 million to 20 million viewers.[3]

This response to KIDS COUNT is just one sign of a broad shift in the past two decades toward stronger measurement and a greater focus on outcomes accountability. To begin, there has been a growing interest in capturing and publicizing data. For example, in the years following our inaugural publication, the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics was established and initiated an annual report, *America's Children*, that presents national data on dozens of child well-being indicators compiled by 22 federal agencies.[4] Similarly, a number of private organizations—including Child Trends and the Foundation for Child Development—also initiated or expanded their efforts to compile and analyze data on children's well-being.

At the federal level, the heightened interest in data has prompted significant improvements in government efforts to collect information on the

circumstances and well-being of U.S. residents. For example, for years, most data were compiled only once every decade through the constitutionally mandated census. Although a small number of surveys and studies funded by federal agencies supplemented the census, the data were at best limited in their depth and timeliness, making more precise measurement of many important indicators challenging, if not impossible.

Today, this situation is much improved. The U.S. Census Bureau now conducts the American Community Survey that collects detailed information from 3 million U.S. households every year and includes many measures related to children. In addition, the federal government also issues several new surveys to better monitor children's health, behavior, educational progress, civic engagement, and alcohol-tobacco-drug use, thereby providing state- and local-level information on important areas of well-being that were not previously researched.

In addition to a heightened federal interest in data collection about the well-being of children and families, we've also seen an increased focus on measuring the impact of government programs designed to help them. In 1993, Congress enacted the Government Performance and Results Act, requiring every federal agency to develop and monitor quantitative measures for their performance, a process that has continued (in modified form) ever since.

Also, Congress has increased data and reporting requirements for many programs receiving federal support and established high-stakes performance goals for several programs and systems that affect children's well-being, including the No Child Left Behind Act, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, and state child welfare systems.

Likewise, many state governments have begun measuring systems and programs against quantitative performance goals, often establishing both state-level children's cabinets to monitor trends and set concrete benchmarks for advancing the well-being of families and issuing local-level report cards to assess progress.

These developments are encouraging, but nowhere near sufficient. We have embraced the language of accountability and the rhetoric of results-oriented programming, but we've made much less headway toward putting these aspirations into effective practice. Our progress in harnessing the power of data to optimize outcomes for vulnerable children and families falls far short of what is possible, far short of what is needed, and far short of what private industry has achieved in its efforts to maximize profits.

Over the past two decades, advances in computer and telecommunications technology have radically changed how people all over the world spend their time, communicate with friends and colleagues, and gather their news. The information revolution has also reshaped the way business gets done in virtually every sector of our economy. New information technologies and data-driven decision-making techniques are demonstrating powerful results.

- In business, millions of American managers now turn on their computers and see a "data dashboard"—an interactive and continually updated graphic scorecard measuring their organization's progress on a range of key performance indicators, from employee turnover to sales per square foot of shelf space.

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In our own experiences and those of our grantees, we've seen how good data, when used properly, can powerfully boost the effectiveness of government-financed human service programs and improve the lives of vulnerable children—particularly when tied to a purposeful advocacy campaign.

■ In medicine, according to a recent study, hospitals employing electronic health records and other automated information technology are seeing significantly better results and lower costs than hospitals that still rely on paper records.[5]

■ In professional sports, the Oakland Athletics made the major league baseball playoffs for 4 straight years (2000 through 2003) despite a below-average payroll by applying a sophisticated new approach to statistical analysis that enabled the team to consistently identify underpriced talent[6]—and ushered in a new data- and statistics-driven generation of sports coaching and management.

■ In political campaigning, superior voter and volunteer databases and the innovative use of Web-based social networks were critical factors in Barack Obama's success in the 2008 presidential campaign.

The Merits of Measuring

At the Annie E. Casey Foundation, we believe that the effective use of information also offers immense promise in the realm of public services—including abundant opportunities to improve child and family well-being. In our own experiences and those of our grantees, we've seen how good data, when used properly, can powerfully boost the effectiveness of government-financed human service programs and improve the lives of vulnerable children—particularly when tied to a purposeful advocacy campaign. Some examples follow.

■ Until the Rhode Island KIDS COUNT organization began sounding the alarm about lead poisoning among young children in the mid-1990s, the issue had generated little attention in the state capitol. To highlight the consequences of lead poisoning on cognitive development and school success, RI KIDS COUNT created a new indicator reflecting the percentage of children entering kindergarten who had ever registered an elevated level of lead in their blood. It also used the new, lower threshold from the Centers for Disease Control to define lead poisoning—a level common among Rhode Island's children that posed a significant risk for cognitive impairment.[7] A 1997 issue brief found that one-fifth of all children entering kindergarten—and more than one-third of children in the state's poorest cities—had a history of elevated blood lead levels.[8] By updating the lead poisoning indicator annually in its state-level data book and publishing a second issue brief on lead poisoning in 2003,[9] RI KIDS COUNT has had a profound impact: Since 1997, the percentage of Rhode Island children entering kindergarten with a history of elevated blood lead levels has shrunk from 28 percent to 5 percent, and in the state's central cities, the rates have fallen from 38 percent to 7 percent.[10] By publicizing existing data and advocating for appropriate responses, other state-level KIDS COUNT organizations achieve similar data-driven policy reforms every year, as do other policy research and advocacy organizations.

■ Since 2001, a dedicated team of Casey Foundation specialists, the Casey Strategic Consulting Group (CSCG), has provided expert assistance at no cost to state and local jurisdictions striving to reform their child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Each of their projects has begun with intensive data analysis, often yielding eye-opening

conclusions that crystallized consensus for fundamental reforms. Following the widely publicized death of a 5-year-old foster child in 2001, Maine reached out to the Consulting Group for help in reforming its embattled child welfare agency, the Office of Children and Family Services. By examining the agency's performance data and comparing them to a dozen other states, CSCG (and its partners at the Chapin Hall Center for Children) found systemic problems: Too many foster children were living in group homes and other congregate care settings; many children were spending too long in foster care before being reunified with their families or placed with adoptive families or relatives. Maine has since reformed its child welfare system from top to bottom, embracing a family-centered practice approach and developing a new user-friendly database that tracks progress on a weekly basis. The results have been dramatic: a 67 percent drop in the number of Maine children in congregate care, a 35 percent drop in the total foster care population, and a sizable increase in the number of children placed with relatives. In March 2009, Maine's child welfare system was named a semi-finalist for a prestigious Innovations Award in Children and Family System Reform.

■ Rigorous attention to data has also been a crucial success factor in the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). This model is now being replicated in more than 100 jurisdictions nationwide and has sharply reduced detention populations in most sites without compromising public safety. One core JDAI practice is to analyze each decision point in the juvenile court process to identify stages where minority youth appear to be impacted differently from white youth. Site teams then review policies and procedures in stages where disparities are apparent to ferret out their underlying sources. In some cases, risk-assessment instruments might include items that disadvantage minority youth. For example, in some communities, minority youth are more likely than whites to rely on public defender services that may be understaffed and poorly trained. In others, a lack of detention alternatives in minority neighborhoods might increase the odds that youth of color will be confined pending trial. By using data to illuminate these situations, some JDAI sites have made encouraging progress in reducing disparities.[11]

As these examples suggest, the creative and far-sighted use of data has the potential to vastly improve outcomes for children, families, and communities. Data-driven advocacy can help illuminate the need for new programs and better policies and foster a more targeted distribution of public resources. Rigorous data analyses and effective use of modern information technologies can increase worker productivity, reduce waste, diagnose and solve common problems, and help authorities understand and begin eliminating the racial disparities that plague public systems serving minorities and the poor.

Seizing these opportunities, however, is neither automatic nor inevitable. Rather, progress requires purposeful investment to collect the necessary data, and it demands that leaders in both the public and private sectors build the capacity to put those data to effective use. But achieving this is challenging in light of a number of factors that we examine in the following section.

Dimensions of the Data Deficit

Unfortunately, the successes described in the earlier section remain exceptions, while a persistent and unnecessary *data deficit* continues to compromise our efforts to improve outcomes for children and families. In metaphorical terms, long after the invention of radar and GPS, we continue to fly blind in many or most of our efforts to improve the lives of our neediest children.

In particular, this data deficit remains glaring for two types of information essential to improved decision-making: population data on the needs, characteristics, and well-being of vulnerable children and families and performance data measuring the outcomes of government-funded programs and services to support this population. In addition to these data quality issues, human service systems also lag behind in the use of sophisticated management information tools that can spur rigorous analysis and put usable information into the hands of decision-making practitioners. Below, we explore each of these issues.

Population Data

Despite significant improvements in recent years, large gaps remain in our ability to usefully measure the overall well-being of children, families, and communities. The deficiencies in our national poverty measure and the ways in which we collect critical demographic data through the decennial census are two key examples.

A Dysfunctional Poverty Measure. Perhaps the single most glaring shortfall comes in our efforts to measure poverty, the "key performance indicator" that rises above all others in its impact on children's futures. Overwhelming research finds that growing

up in poverty—especially deep and/or sustained poverty, particularly in the first years of life—has crippling and lifelong consequences. Childhood poverty is negatively correlated with school success, future earnings, and both physical and mental health. Children raised in poverty are far more likely than affluent or middle-class children to suffer abuse or neglect. They are many times more likely than other children to become ensnared in the justice system and less likely to find stable employment or form durable families.[12]

Yet, our system for defining and monitoring poverty is thoroughly outdated. Developed in the 1960s, the official U.S. poverty measure is calculated by summing the cost of a rudimentary grocery budget and multiplying the total by three—because food represented roughly one-third of a typical 1960s family budget. The poverty threshold has never been recalculated since that time—only adjusted for inflation—even though food now consumes about one-seventh of a typical family's budget. The outdated formula takes no account of child care, transportation, health insurance, and other expenses that consume a far greater share of families' incomes today, nor does it account for significant regional differences in the cost of living.

Perhaps even more important, poverty calculations exclude non-cash benefits, such as the earned-income and other refundable tax credits, housing assistance, and food stamps. All have grown rapidly and represent the bulk of government support to low-income families. In other words, our nation's so-called poverty measure provides absolutely no gauge of the impact of our major anti-poverty programs on reducing poverty.[13]

A Skewed Census. Another critical gap comes in the decennial census, which consistently fails to count millions of U.S. residents—most often children and residents of low-income urban communities. The U.S. Census Bureau's own analyses showed that as in prior decades, the 1990 Census involved a widespread undercount of less affluent minorities, coupled with an overcount of whites.[14] In 2000, the Census Bureau undertook new procedures, including engaging state, local, and community organizations as partners and investing in a public awareness campaign. These steps reduced the estimated number of undercounts and overcounts—but the final tally still missed millions of people and duplicated millions more. The Census Bureau analysis showed that minorities and young children continued to be missed at higher rates than others in the 2000 Census.[15]

Because the funding formulas for many federal programs are based on census population totals, undercounting low-income urban families means fewer services and less support in our most needy communities. Each undercounted resident means $12,000 less in federal support to a community over 10 years.[16] Meanwhile, skewed census data for distressed communities undermine our understanding of the very neighborhoods where children face the longest odds of success.

Unfortunately, preparations for the 2010 Census have been riddled with difficulties. The Census Bureau cut short its scheduled "dress rehearsal" in 2008—a crucial step for ensuring a smooth count—due to glitches with new handheld technologies. In 2008, the Governmental Accountability Office, the investigative arm of Congress, added the 2010 Census to its list of 30 "high-risk

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areas" capable of undermining the effectiveness of the federal government and wasting taxpayer dollars.[17] As late as June 2009, the Census Bureau still lacked a director.

Other Gaps in Well-Being Data. Although issues around poverty measurement and the census are critical, there are also significant—and, in some cases, growing—problems that plague other federal data on child and family well-being. Consider the following examples.

- Nationally, we collect scant information on the circumstances of younger children (infancy through age 10) and on teen dropouts (since many youth surveys are school-based). Similarly, we collect less information about the positive development of young people—such as school engagement, civic engagement, and social competence—than we do on such problem-focused outcomes as delinquency, truancy, and substance abuse.[18]

- Due to budget shortfalls at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and recent changes to birth certificate forms, substantial gaps and delays have emerged in compiling data about teen and out-of-wedlock births, low-birthweight babies, infant mortality, and other critical indicators. Indeed, 5 of the 10 measures used to rank states in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* rely on these vital statistics data. Budget woes have also led NCHS to decrease the sample sizes for national surveys related to children's health—reducing the accuracy of many measures.[19]

- Finally, despite growing recognition that what a family owns and how much it owes are at least as important as its annual income, data on family financial assets are virtually uncollected. For example, with the exception of homeownership, the American Community Survey (ACS) doesn't include questions about assets or debts. Although some national surveys do offer information about family assets, they have far smaller sample sizes than the ACS—thereby providing no valid state- or local-level estimates. In sum, we have limited information on the assets, savings, and financial stability of less affluent families.[20]

Government Performance Data

Although attention to the performance of public systems that serve children and families has intensified in recent years, we still don't routinely collect crucial outcome information from some of our most important (and costly) public programs and services. In addition, we too often assess performance using measures that are incomplete, unclear, or otherwise problematic.

Unmeasured Outcomes. In some systems, especially those not subject to meaningful national reporting requirements, performance measurement is highly uneven and often weak. For instance, few state or local juvenile justice systems report (or even collect) data on the educational progress or labor market success of court-involved youth. Likewise, despite substantial federal funding, state children's mental health systems are not measured against any national performance indicators, and few states systematically monitor outcomes of children served by taxpayer-funded mental health providers.

In other systems, performance measurement is robust for some core goals, but lacking for others. In child welfare, for example, state and local agencies are held accountable for performance measures

related to children's safety and well-being while in care and after their placement into permanent families. Few jurisdictions, however, collect or report data on the academic performance of these children. Likewise, few track the long-term outcomes of youth—college attendance, employment, parenting, or contact with the criminal justice system—after leaving care.

Problematic Outcome Measures. Even when human service agencies systematically collect outcome data, they may be of limited or no value if the performance measures employed are not clear and valid—and if they are not comparable against other jurisdictions or against the benchmarks of an agency's own prior performance.

One of the most glaring examples of this is in education. Under the No Child Left Behind Act, which governs federal support for elementary and secondary education, states develop their own assessment tests and set the "proficiency levels" required to earn a passing score. The result has been wide disparities in the rigor of the state tests that render cross-state comparisons meaningless,[21] since virtually every state's proficiency levels are set well below those of the federal government's National Assessment of Educational Progress.[22] Similarly, in juvenile justice, although more and more states now report on the recidivism of youthful offenders released from juvenile corrections facilities, the methodologies employed to calculate recidivism vary widely. Some states measure the percentage of rearrested youth, others the percentage found guilty of a new offense, and still others the percentage of youth who return to correctional custody. Such variables can significantly impact the calculated recidivism rates, making cross-state comparisons difficult or impossible.

In other systems, performance measures have limited utility because they are not clear or easily understandable. For instance, the Child and Family Service Reviews process, which is used to evaluate state child welfare systems, employs complex, artificially constructed composite measures. One measure aggregates results from five goals related to duration in foster care and the timeliness of adoptions and reunifications. For a state to learn that its composite score is 101.7, versus a federal standard of 106.4, conveys much less meaning to policymakers or child welfare staff than direct performance scores showing that foster children are waiting too long for adoptions, or that too many are being placed into institutional group homes, rather than with foster families.

In some cases, poorly crafted performance measures can be counterproductive. The Child and Family Service Reviews (referenced above) emphasize *how quickly* children are reunified or adopted more than *how many* ever achieve these positive outcomes. Consequently, states where small numbers of children are adopted quickly will rank higher than those where overall adoption rates are higher, but placements take longer to complete.

Problems in Managing, Analyzing, and Using Databases

The continuing weaknesses in population and performance data described above are disappointing. However, just as important—perhaps even more so—is the failure of public systems to accumulate, maintain, and actually *use* data—even when such valuable information on their clientele, services, and other factors may influence success. Too often, critical data are not compiled electronically. When they are, this information is frequently inaccurate or unusable by frontline service providers. Sometimes, this occurs because data collection is a low priority for frontline workers, with little or no value in their day-to-day activities with children and families. Other times, it's a function of outdated software systems that make entering and updating data tedious.

Even when detailed information on participants and programs is compiled and computerized, human service and education agencies will derive little benefit unless they put the data to productive use. Unfortunately, most public agencies have neither the inclination nor capacity to do so. Few states and local jurisdictions rigorously analyze their data to identify key performance indicators or critical success factors—and too few have forged ties with universities or other potential research partners to help analyze the data for them.

One of the most important benefits of strong data is the opportunity to track each child's progress (or problems) over time—for example, from one level of school to the next, or from one instance of reported abuse to another, or from one delinquency arrest to the next. However, public agencies often lack this crucial capacity. In child welfare, not enough states track cases over multiple years, leaving them unable to capture the full range of experiences and outcomes for all children who pass through the foster care system. Instead, when child welfare agencies report on the average length of time in foster care, or the average time to adoption, they often base their figures on a point-in-time snapshot of children in care on a given date, or the subset of children who have exited care in the previous year—yielding a distorted portrait of their child welfare system's actual performance.

Likewise, most systems and agencies lack the ability to access important data from multiple sources. As a result, frontline workers (or teachers) in one system typically can't obtain information on the full range of their clients' (and students') needs and circumstances: Child welfare workers don't have children's education data; juvenile justice workers don't have child welfare records, or health records, and so on. Only a handful of jurisdictions nationwide integrate administrative data sets from several systems, even though this is crucial for understanding the complex needs of children and families with multiple issues and those who are involved with two or more systems simultaneously.

Finally, our human service systems tend not to invest in emerging information technologies that have become the norm in other fields. Few public agencies routinely purchase laptops or handheld devices for frontline staff. Few have created data dashboards that allow administrators and frontline workers to track progress on key performance indicators and examine underlying trends. New technologies like these and others have the potential to vastly expand the information available to frontline workers, engage parents in efforts to boost their children's well-being, and accelerate the feedback loop by which workers and supervisors can assess their progress. Sadly, that potential remains largely unrealized.

Counting What Counts: Essential Building Blocks for Data-Driven Progress

The data deficits described here are daunting, but not insurmountable. The formula for progress begins with two essential steps.

First, we must compile better and more complete data. If we are going to take results seriously in our efforts to safeguard the well-being of children and families, then we must adopt and adhere to far more rigorous standards for the collection and utilization of data. Whether they're *population data* assessing the well-being of children and families, *performance data* measuring the outcomes of programs and systems, or *management databases* aggregating all relevant information about participants and services provided, we must upgrade all of our data collection efforts to meet four cross-cutting tests:

- **Are the data sufficient?** Are we collecting all of the necessary data to fully understand the needs of children and families, clearly assess the effectiveness of our efforts, and support creative problem-solving? Are we generating these data frequently enough and in sufficient detail to inform good policy and practice? And, are there enough data being collected to allow us to measure disparities in outcomes by income level, race, and other socioeconomic indicators?

- **Are the data clear and comparable?** Are we compiling these data using carefully defined and uniform measures that are clear, readily understandable, consistently applied, and comparable across jurisdictions?

- **Are the data accessible and easy to use?** Are the data readily available to all of the relevant audiences—policymakers, managers, supervisors, frontline staff, participants, advocates—both after the fact for evaluation and in real time to support wise decision-making and continuous improvement?

- **Are the data integrated?** Can data from one program or system be integrated with data from other

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sources to assess the full range of circumstances affecting children and families, as well as to identify opportunities for better coordinating services to those with multiple needs?

Second, we must vastly improve our capacity to analyze and utilize data to improve outcomes for children and families. Specifically, with federal support, states and localities should strengthen the analytic capacities of public agencies; develop constructive partnerships with universities and other freestanding centers to utilize data and conduct research; and incorporate information technologies that increase the information available to workers at every level.

However, simply combining these elements—better data, stronger data analysis, and greater use of information technology—is still not enough. We must also make a national commitment to counting what counts in our efforts to meet the needs and boost the outcomes of less fortunate children. As the following recommendations detail, this needed data revolution will require action at every level of government, as well as from those outside groups that share a common commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable children.

Action Agenda: Intensify Federal Leadership

In the three decades since Ronald Reagan assumed the presidency, promoting a doctrine of "New Federalism," our nation has seen a significant shift in responsibilities for social programs away from Washington and toward the states. When it comes to data, however, the federal government retains a clear leadership role. Through the census, the American Community Survey, and a host of more targeted surveys, the federal government is the primary collector of data on the well-being of children and families nationwide. Washington also has the key role of defining and requiring performance accountability and data reporting from state and local human service systems and in bringing experts together to build consensus around uniform data standards and outcome measures. In all of these ways, the federal government plays a crucial role in shaping and subsidizing the development of high-quality data systems in state and local education and human service agencies.

Though federal officials have made progress in recent years toward increasing the availability of high-quality data, several additional steps are urgently needed to help reduce the data deficit. Many of them are now well within our grasp.

Better Information on Child and Family Well-Being

The first focus of federal authorities should be to further strengthen the availability of data on the well-being of children and families by ensuring a strong census, updating the poverty measure, expanding what is currently collected on children and families, and shoring up the vital records system.

Fully Fund, Properly Manage, and Successfully Promote the Census. Job number one is to ensure a complete count in the 2010 Census, which will be used in allocation formulas to distribute more than $400 billion annually in federal funding throughout the next decade.[23] This will be especially challenging in 2010 because of difficulties in initial planning and the lack of a census director for many months, following the presidential transition. Housing dislocations caused by the foreclosure crisis and recession, combined with an ever-increasing immigrant population (many with powerful fears of government), will further complicate census-taking in 2010.

Fortunately, the Obama administration has nominated a highly qualified statistician, Dr. Robert Groves, to head the Census Bureau, and Congress included $1 billion in additional support for the 2010 Census in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009—including $250 million to support community partnerships and outreach efforts in minority communities. However, more funding may be needed in the Bureau's 2010 budget to ensure that outreach efforts equal or surpass the intensity levels achieved in 2000, and strong leadership will be required from census administrators to solidify plans and streamline procedures before counting begins next April. Looking to the future, Congress and the president should ensure continuity in census planning by appointing the Bureau's director to a fixed 5-year term.

Update the Poverty Measure. Equally crucial is to update the nation's obsolete poverty measure. The new poverty measure should account for costs related to work, child care, taxes, and out-of-pocket medical expenses, and it should adjust for regional differences in the cost of living. It must also recognize non-cash benefits, such as earned-income tax credits, food stamps, and housing vouchers provided through federal and state anti-poverty programs. Fortunately, the National Academy of Sciences developed (in the 1990s) an excellent template for just such an improved poverty measure. The Measuring American Poverty Act of 2009, which is expected to be introduced in both the House and Senate this summer, would implement the National Academy of Sciences' recommendation. In addition,

To fill gaps in information on basic well-being available to state and local policymakers, the federal government should initiate annual collection of detailed state-level data on aspects of children's general condition and development, including mental health, socio-emotional development, peer influences, and neighborhood effects.

Congress should enact legislation shifting responsibility for calculating poverty away from the Office of Management and Budget, where it has long been burdened by political cross-pressures, and place it instead in a non-partisan statistical agency like the Census Bureau, where it can be periodically refined and updated by qualified, non-political experts.

Increase Data Collection on Child and Family Well-Being. To fill gaps in information on basic well-being available to state and local policymakers, the federal government should initiate annual collection of detailed state-level data on aspects of children's general condition and development, including mental health, socio-emotional development, peer influences, and neighborhood effects. The survey should pay special attention to children from infancy through age 10, as well as out-of-school adolescents, about whom we currently have inadequate information. For less than $20 million per year, this survey could expand upon the existing National Survey of Children's Health, which is administered every 4 years. Legislation has been introduced in the Senate, The State Child Well-Being Research Act of 2009 (S. 1151), and a companion bill has been introduced in the House (H.R. 2558) that would expand the current survey into a National Survey of Children's Health and Well-Being to collect data annually on how children are faring, state by state. The proposals have strong, bipartisan support, and we anticipate that they will be adopted. Likewise, increasing the sample size of each year's American Community Survey—for a relatively modest investment—would significantly enhance the accuracy of data available to policymakers and planners working in high-poverty urban neighborhoods and rural communities.

Address Problems in the Vital Records System. As noted earlier, budget cuts and problems associated with new reporting requirements have seriously undermined the integrity and timeliness of vital records data—a crucial source of information on infant mortality, prenatal health, low-birthweight babies, and other key indicators. To solve these problems, Congress should make a one-time appropriation of $30 million to help states complete the transition to the new vital records forms and then provide $8 million to $10 million in additional annual funding to support this essential data stream.

Stronger Leadership on Program Data Collection and Outcome Measurement

Over the next 2 years, the pending reauthorization of several major programs serving children and families—including the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the No Child Left Behind Act, and the Workforce Investment Act—provide important opportunities to strengthen data collection and utilization. So, too, do the new child welfare regulations that must be promulgated soon for implementation of the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, which was signed into law in 2008.

Congress and the Obama administration should use these opportunities to address disappointing and persistent data limitations by developing or refining performance indicators and data collection/reporting requirements for public systems. Care must be taken to ensure that the data we collect accurately reflect these systems' most important goals and that they capture the full range of program-related information needed to conduct meaningful research and support improved decision-making.

In **child welfare**, for instance, new regulations should correct flaws in the Child and Family Service Reviews process by requiring states to track and report data for all children who enter the foster care system in a given year, rather than just those who are in care at the end of the year. Also, new regulations should replace hard-to-understand composite scores with simple, easy-to-comprehend measures directly tied to child outcomes. Furthermore, they should ensure that scores reflect actual changes in system performance, rather than shifts in the population served. To shed light on racial disparities in these systems, states should be required to disaggregate key data by race and ethnicity. Finally, Congress should provide funding for states to implement recently released (but long-delayed) regulations requiring states to report services to and long-term outcomes for youth aging out of foster care.

In **K–12 education**, the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) should be amended to promote adoption of meaningful, consistent academic proficiency standards in every state, as well as new standards for student attendance. NCLB should also require states to correct the common flaws and disparities in calculating graduation rates. There is also growing consensus that the definition of "adequate yearly progress" in schools should include not only the percentage of students achieving a passing rate on state assessment tests, but also a measurement of "value added" or "continuous progress" that captures students' year-to-year improvement. Finally, given the compelling research showing how profoundly early reading affects future academic success, NCLB should be amended to add a new national goal on 3rd grade reading proficiency, the time when children make the crucial transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn."

In **juvenile justice**, the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention should convene experts from across the country to develop a common set of performance measures, beginning with a uniform definition of recidivism for youth released from juvenile corrections facilities. Over time, common performance measures should be developed for community safety (helping all court-involved youth to avoid re-offending), and meaningful guidelines (with strict monitoring) should also be established for the safety and conditions of confinement for youth in custody.

In seeking to improve the quality and utilization of data in these and other systems, federal authorities should capitalize on their unique capacity to convene experts and to finance database development and research. They should play a catalytic role in forging consensus on high-priority performance indicators and crucial data collection needs. On issues of utmost importance, and for systems into which the federal government provides robust financial support, federal authorities should impose rules requiring stronger data collection and reporting, and they should insist that states employ common measures that allow for meaningful analysis and cross-state comparisons.

Action Agenda: A Data Awakening in State and Local Systems

Ultimately, the job of compiling the needed program and performance data will fall to state and local agencies responsible for educating, protecting, treating, training, employing, and counseling vulnerable children and their families. If we hope to realize the full benefits of the data revolution for children and families, as well as taxpayers, these systems—child welfare, public education, juvenile justice, welfare, job training, mental health—must acquire the tools and master the techniques of data-driven decision-making.

As we have observed, most systems still have a long road to travel. To complete the journey, the dedicated professionals who staff and supervise these agencies will need to fundamentally overhaul their approach. For decades, data collection has been widely viewed within these systems as an activity to satisfy reporting requirements. Data's primary (or only) purpose has been to justify budgets, quantify processes, or measure work effort. For most direct service providers working with children and families on the front lines, data compilation has largely remained a burden, an extra chore, with little immediate value for improving the lives of their clients, students, patients, or wards.

What's needed today, as the business sector learned a decade ago, is an awakening to the value of data. This will require a new commitment and capacity to make data a useful tool—not only for administrators, elected officials, the media, and other watchdogs, but also for workers up and down these organizations. While the need for this data awakening has gained adherents in many systems, real change remains slow. To accelerate the shift, state and local agencies must move aggressively to improve performance measurement, strengthen administrative databases, improve data analysis, promote data-driven practice improvements, and expand use of new information technologies.

Improve Performance Measurement

Strong outcome measurement can focus an agency's work and stimulate an ongoing stream of practice

States and local jurisdictions must also build their capacity to integrate data sets and track the circumstances of youth involved in multiple systems. One option is to create virtual "data warehouses" with access to records from multiple state systems, as well as census, vital records, and other data streams.

improvements, leading to better results. However, those benefits will accrue only when leaders define outcome measures that are clear, comparable to other jurisdictions, easy to understand, readily collectible, and crafted to avoid the all-too-real danger of creating counterproductive incentives. One state that is improving their odds of success by creating performance measures that accurately capture progress toward key goals is Utah.

In response to a class action suit over substandard care in the 1990s, Utah's child welfare agency initiated a process of Quality Case Reviews to assess both the status of children and families served by the agency and caseworkers' adherence to a new family-centered practice model. Every year, in each of the state's six regions, state child welfare officials and professionals working in related fields review two dozen or more cases. Reviewers score each case against child and family status indicators, such as safety, stability, and physical and emotional health, and on case workers' adherence to 11 core principles of the practice model. Since the first round of reviews in 2000, scores have improved dramatically. The share of Utah caseworkers achieving an acceptable rating for following the practice model rose from 42 percent in 2000 to 90 percent and 89 percent, respectively, over the past 2 years. Utah has also seen corresponding improvements in the status of children and families.[24]

Strengthen Administrative Databases

As we have noted, public systems cannot realize the full benefits of the information revolution until they build and maintain effective databases. Specifically, they must develop data systems with the capacity to track cases longitudinally, integrate with other data sets, and answer crucial questions of policy and practice.

Public education agencies should follow the lead of 6 states—Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, and Utah—whose data systems possess all 10 elements considered essential for effective educational planning by the Data Quality Campaign. This national collaborative effort supports state policymakers to improve the availability and use of high-quality education data to boost student achievement.[25] Many states, however, still face considerable work bringing their educational data systems up to speed. For example, 8 states (and the District of Columbia) continue to lack the capacity to reliably calculate graduation rates.[26]

Child welfare agencies have several options to upgrade their data capabilities. They can contract with university-based researchers like the University of California's Center for Social Services Research, which maintains a sophisticated longitudinal data system that provides detailed quarterly reports to child welfare authorities in every California county. They can also build data capacities internally or, as 23 states have, they can participate in the Chapin Hall Center for Children's Multistate Foster Care Data Archive, which also tracks data longitudinally and conducts wide-ranging data analyses.

States and local jurisdictions must also build their capacity to integrate data sets and track the circumstances of youth involved in multiple systems. One option is to create virtual "data warehouses" with access to records from multiple state systems, as well as census, vital records, and other data streams. For instance, Florida has one data warehouse that combines pre-kindergarten through university-level education information and another that ties together a host of data sets related to employment and earnings. These two data warehouses can be linked and

connected to administrative data from other state systems.[27] South Carolina has used its extensive data warehouse to examine special health care needs facing children statewide, identify communities with large numbers of uninsured children, and profile the population of infants and toddlers at highest risk for school failure.[28]

Improve Data Analysis

Some human service agencies have grown adept at compiling lots of data and generating required reports, but most remain weak in analyzing information and putting it to productive use. They have become data rich, but remain knowledge poor. Developing the capacity to analyze data effectively—identify key indicators, isolate critical success factors, or uncover the hidden dynamics underlying significant trends—is a pressing challenge throughout the field.

As some states have seen, meeting that challenge can yield important rewards. In 2007, Virginia invited the Casey Strategic Consulting Group to study its child welfare system and identify opportunities to improve permanency outcomes. The resulting analysis revealed that nearly a quarter of Virginia's foster children were living in group placements, well above the national average, while the share of children living in foster homes was dwindling rapidly due to low rates paid to foster parents and a lack of financial incentives for counties to place children with families. Meanwhile, the share of foster children achieving permanence was far below the national average. These findings helped galvanize Virginia officials, and in 2008, the state's legislature passed a reform bill creating a new funding formula that reimburses counties at a higher rate for placements into foster families than for placements into congregate care.

Like a number of other cities, Chicago has revolutionized its dropout prevention efforts in recent years by employing data to develop early warning indicators that pinpoint the common pathways leading to school failure—particularly academic problems and absenteeism in 9th grade—and to identify students at extreme risk of dropping out. More than 80 percent of Chicago students who are on track at the end of 9th grade graduate within 4 years, compared to just 22 percent of students not on track.[29] Chicago has begun providing detailed spreadsheets for every public high school, showing grades, attendance, and other data about all incoming 9th graders, including a watch list of students at risk of failure. Summer enrichment classes are offered to incoming 9th graders, a range of credit-recovery courses are provided during the school year, and attendance intervention efforts assist students with a history of unexcused absences.[30] These actions are yielding promising results. Unlike many other big city school districts, Chicago has seen a steady rise in graduation rates in recent years.[31]

Racial disparities are another important focus for data analysis. In virtually all of our public systems, outcomes diverge for children and families of different races, with African Americans most often experiencing less favorable outcomes. Disaggregating outcomes by race at each decision point offers a valuable tool for determining the factors underlying these disparities and sparking the development of new strategies to reduce racial disparities.

Promote Data-Driven Practice Improvements

Ultimately, the most important opportunities for program improvement will be realized when data become integral to the everyday work of frontline staff. Although that remains far from the norm in most agencies today, some pioneering jurisdictions are increasingly putting data to use on the front line.

For example, as part of the Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, juvenile justice leaders in Oregon's Multnomah County have long utilized a daily population report, summarizing the case details of each young person held in the detention center. The report enables staff to determine which youth may be appropriate for alternative supervision and ensure that youth do not languish unnecessarily in detention. More recently, Multnomah officials have developed a daily "Caseload Quick Facts" data printout, detailing whether each young person under probation supervision is on track for achieving key objectives in terms of school enrollment, contact with probation officers, and restitution activities. These reports help frontline staff organize their workloads, allow supervisors to monitor how well individual workers are meeting performance goals, and help administrators assess the effectiveness of the entire agency.

In California, the San Diego County Office of Education developed an Internet-based information system to track the educational progress of foster children enrolled in public schools. The service, known as the Foster Youth–Student Information System, stores detailed records on foster children's placement history, health, educational progress, and delinquency history. It can be accessed anytime by authorized users in the schools, child welfare system, and juvenile court, as well as by children's attorneys and foster families—though some information is restricted to protect privacy. The Web-based system has made it far easier for schools and child welfare staff to streamline new

school placements for foster children, offer needed support services, and ensure that credits from previous schools are transferred correctly.[32]

Expand Use of New Information Technologies

New information technologies have become ubiquitous in the business world—BlackBerrys, laptops, and tablet PCs. Despite their obvious potential for the human services field, little has changed technologically for many or most frontline workers in recent years. Beyond the use of e-mail, few agencies have even begun to explore opportunities created by the Internet to disseminate information, network, and boost productivity. Closing this gap is critical—especially considering the positive results already being reaped by innovative agencies that have taken advantage of new technology.

- "Family Finding" is a program model that uses the search capabilities of the Internet to locate and engage relatives of longtime foster children—producing powerful results not just in identifying relatives, but also in nurturing strong relationships that lead to permanent family connections. In Tacoma, Washington, social workers found one or more relatives for all but 1 of 500 children. By engaging family members, developing case plans, and providing needed support, Tacoma social workers helped 85 percent of these children to reunify with their parents or move in with other relatives.[33]

- Since 2007, Oklahoma's child welfare agency has distributed more than 3,000 tablet PCs to frontline child welfare workers. By recognizing and automatically entering workers' handwritten notes into case files, the tablet technology eliminates the need for workers to retype notes taken in meetings with children, families, and others in the community. The tablets are also Web-enabled, allowing workers to check their e-mail and work from any remote location.[34] Similarly, West Virginia's child welfare agency has procured "digital pens" for its workers to automatically input handwritten notes into the state's automated database.[35]

Beyond these isolated innovations, the human services field has the opportunity to transform practice more fundamentally by using new platforms that combine several modern information tools. Currently, the Annie E. Casey Foundation is developing such a platform—tentatively called Casebook—for use in child welfare. Like a social networking website, Casebook will be built around individualized online profiles that can be accessed only by authorized users. Each Casebook profile will encompass the entire family of any child involved in the child welfare system. Casebook will automatically create and update the case files for every family by linking electronically to the administrative data systems of multiple child service agencies—schools, foster care agencies, Medicaid, TANF, and others. Communicating online through Casebook, staff from these agencies will be able to discuss any case, and details from their conversations will be entered into the file to inform every authorized person working on the case. Casebook will issue alarms when any aspect of a case becomes problematic, and it will generate reminders to prompt needed action.

Finally, the Casebook system will employ digital dashboards, allowing supervisors and other staff to track progress on such key performance indicators as rapid responses to abuse reports, placement

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stability, and timely reunification. From these digital dashboards, users will be able to further explore the data to identify the factors that might influence success or failure on any of the indicators tracked. This Casebook approach represents a significant Foundation investment that is also designed to facilitate our commitment to securing permanence for the most challenged children and youth in the child welfare system. It will be beta tested later this year by Casey Family Services, the Foundation's direct services agency that has divisions in Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Action Agenda: Engage Children's Advocates and Other Concerned Leaders

Most of the responsibility for collecting and using data falls to state and local service agencies, or to the federal government. There is also a crucial role for others with a stake in the well-being of vulnerable kids and families, including state and local elected officials, scholars, civic and religious leaders, foundation staff, and other children's advocates. By engaging in data-driven advocacy, identifying critical benchmarks, and using community mapping techniques, child advocates can build awareness and mobilize action to improve the lives of children and families.

Data-Driven Advocacy. As state-level KIDS COUNT grantees have been doing for years, advocates can mount data-driven advocacy campaigns to bring ignored data to public attention and to press for timely and commensurate responses. For instance, Kentucky Youth Advocates produced a report in 2003 trumpeting previously published, but little noticed, data showing that half of Kentucky's 2- to 4-year-olds had untreated cavities and that two-thirds of children covered by government-funded health insurance were not receiving any dental care.[36] The report revealed that many areas in Kentucky had too few dentists, especially pediatric dentists, and that fewer than half of the dentists in the state participated in the Medicaid program. In response to the report, plus a follow-up publication in 2005, Kentucky's legislature approved a 30 percent increase in reimbursement rates for dentists serving low-income patients in 2006, and it expanded benefits to include two cleanings per year instead of one. In 2008, Kentucky's legislature began requiring dental screenings or exams for every child enrolling in public schools.[37]

Leadership in Identifying Benchmarks. On important emerging issues where no public system is well positioned to respond, advocates and scholars can provide leadership by documenting the problems and identifying benchmarks to monitor progress. Historically, the government has paid little attention to asset poverty. Nonprofit policy research organizations and university scholars reached a consensus on the importance of financial assets in the economic success of families and the well-being of children. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services now funds a series of studies on this issue by researchers at the Urban Institute, New America Foundation, and the Center for Social Development at Washington University.[38]

In workforce development, where services are offered by myriad providers funded through multiple systems without any common performance indicators, the policy research firm Public/Private Ventures (P/PV) has developed benchmarks that can be applied to any training or employment program. As of last year, P/PV was collecting and analyzing data from 129 organizations. By 2012, it plans to have 1,000 organizations submitting data and participating in a "learning community," where they will analyze their results, compare themselves with like organizations, and use the data to improve services and boost success.[39]

Data-Focused Campaigns to Build Awareness and Mobilize Action. Children's advocates can also employ data to raise public awareness of trends affecting children's well-being and then set goals and mobilize public opinion to address crucial needs and improve outcomes. As of 2008, 24 states had established permanent children's cabinets (or similar committees) to track and respond to the emerging needs of children. Typically comprising state agency heads, legislators, and community leaders, these bodies aim to coordinate strategies and programs, develop common goals, and set priorities for state efforts on behalf of children.[40] Often, they produce high-profile reports that track progress on key indicators of child and family well-being. Likewise, many communities now publish report cards—developed by local government or civic organizations—that educate residents about the needs of children and families, while garnering support for concerted action.

Neighborhood Indicators and Community Mapping. To capitalize on the growing wealth of local-area data on child and family well-being, many cities are mobilizing "neighborhood indicators projects" to clarify challenges and identify opportunities to improve results for children and families at the neighborhood, city, and county levels.

In Indianapolis, the Polis Center at Indiana-Purdue University examined childhood obesity

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in local neighborhoods using data on income, the prevalence of parks and recreation programs, crime rates, and other variables. The study found that children in neighborhoods with very low average incomes were far more likely than other children to be obese, and it led to a community-wide planning process to address the obesity problem.[41]

Likewise, the Greater New Orleans Data Center played a key role in planning recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina. The Data Center has created detailed maps showing where child care programs are operating, how many residents have returned to city neighborhoods, and how much money will be required to repair storm damage in different wards in the city and in surrounding parishes.[42] A number of communities also employ community mapping to meet the challenge of reintegrating ex-offenders returning home from prison.

Conclusion

In the 20 years since the Casey Foundation launched our annual, state-by-state collection of indicators and rankings on child well-being, the nation has indeed made important progress in efforts to gather, analyze, share, and utilize data to promote improved prospects for vulnerable children and families. We have seen an encouraging groundswell of support and actions that reinforce our core conviction that data-driven decision-making is critical to achieving real and lasting results for kids. Enabling and enhancing America's ability to count what counts is key to improving accountability for the programs and policies designed to work on their behalf.

However, the advances made at the federal, state, and community levels to effectively collect and use data to address challenges and create meaningful opportunities continue to fall far short of what is possible, what is needed, and what is demanded by the current technology environment. Systems and organizations charged with helping disadvantaged families and communities succeed must capitalize on new opportunities afforded by today's information revolution to bolster their efforts to measure and improve outcomes.

This imperative comes at a time when our economy may seem least able to take on potentially costly reforms needed to build the technology infrastructure and human capacity required to achieve this goal. Despite budget shortfalls, now is the wrong time to scale back investments that will yield a long-range and long-lasting payoff in reduced waste and improved efficiency. In fact, it is more critical now than ever to have accurate data that show how American families are faring in the current economic downturn and have systems that are equipped to use this information to improve the well-being of those children and families most in need.

As we've shared in this essay, many promising efforts have already been demonstrated, and worthy proposals have been introduced that advance the merits of measuring progress and mastering the use of new technologies to sustain it. But there is still much work to be done. The Annie E. Casey Foundation plans to continue our commitment to data-based accountability by investing in the improvement and use of data by systems that serve vulnerable children. We call upon our partners and our leaders at all levels to do the same.

Douglas W. Nelson
President and CEO
The Annie E. Casey Foundation

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SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

The broad array of data we present each year in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is intended to illuminate the status of America's children and to assess trends in their well-being. By updating the assessment every year, KIDS COUNT provides ongoing benchmarks that can be used to see how states have advanced or regressed over time. Readers can also use KIDS COUNT to compare the status of children in their state with those in other states across several dimensions of child well-being.

Although the 10 measures used in KIDS COUNT to rank states can hardly capture the full range of conditions shaping children's lives, we believe these indicators possess three important attributes: (1) They reflect a wide range of factors affecting the well-being of children, such as health, adequacy of income, and educational attainment. (2) They reflect experiences across a range of developmental stages—from birth through early adulthood. (3) They permit legitimate comparisons because they are consistent across states and over time. Research shows that the 10 KIDS COUNT key indicators capture most of the yearly variation in child well-being reflected in other indices that utilize a much larger number of indicators. For more information about the criteria used to select KIDS COUNT indicators, see page 138.

The 10 indicators used to rank states reflect a developmental perspective on childhood and underscore our goal to build a world where pregnant women and newborns thrive; infants and young children receive the support they need to enter school prepared to learn; children succeed in school; adolescents choose healthy behaviors; and young people experience a successful transition into adulthood. In all of these stages of development, young people need the economic and social assistance provided by a strong family and a supportive community.

As the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* has developed over time, some of the indicators used to rank states have changed because we replaced weaker measures with stronger ones. Consequently, comparing rankings in the 2009 *Data Book* to rankings in past *Data Books* does not always provide a perfect assessment of change over time. However, Appendix 2 shows how states would have ranked in past years if we had employed the same 10 measures used in the 2009 *Data Book*. The table in Appendix 2 is the best way to assess state changes over time in overall child well-being.

Variations in Child Well-Being by Race and Ethnicity

Not all children have the same opportunities to succeed. Some children, particularly children of color, face greater barriers to achieving success as they move through childhood and adolescence. Table 1 provides national statistics for five large racial and ethnic groups on each of the 10 measures of child well-being used to rank states. To access state-level data for these racial and ethnic groups for our 10 key indicators, visit the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

KIDS COUNT Data Center

The new **KIDS COUNT Data Center** provides easy online access to data on children and youth for U.S. states and hundreds of cities, counties, and school districts across the country. The Data Center includes the following features:

- A wide range of child well-being indicators grouped by categories: demographics, economic well-being, education, family and community, health, and safety and risky behaviors
- Customizable maps, trend lines, and charts for use in presentations and publications
- Rankings of states, cities, and other geographies for any indicator on the fly
- Maps and graphs with real-time data to feature on your own website or blog
- Data for large racial and ethnic groups and children in immigrant families on topics such as child poverty and parental employment
- Links to research and recommendations on best practices to improve outcomes

Access the Data Center at datacenter.kidscount.org.

TABLE 1 10 Key Indicators of Child Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006/2007

Key Indicators		NATIONAL AVERAGE	NON-HISPANIC WHITE	BLACK/ AFRICAN AMERICAN	ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER	AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE	HISPANIC/ LATINO
Percent low-birthweight babies	2006	8.3	7.3	13.6	8.1	7.5	7.0
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2006	6.7	5.6	13.3	3.6	8.2	5.5
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2006	19	17	28	13	26	18
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2006	64	59	85	37	95	65
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2006	42	26	65	17	55	83
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)*	2007	7	5	8	3	12	12
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)*	2007	8	6	13	4	15	12
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment*	2007	33	27	49	29	52	37
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)*	2007	18	11	35	12	33	27
Percent of children in single-parent families*	2007	32	23	65	17	49	37

NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

*For this measure, the data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

Nationally, the differences in child well-being across racial and ethnic lines vary by indicator. Our ability to progress as a nation depends on the degree to which we can create opportunities for all children to succeed. In fact, nationally, since 2000, gaps in the differences in child well-being along racial and ethnic lines have decreased in some areas—most notably, the high school dropout rate. However, on the whole, non-Hispanic white children continue to have greater opportunities for better outcomes compared with most other racial and ethnic groups. Comparative trend data for the information contained in Table 1 can be found at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

KIDS COUNT State Indicators

In the pages that follow, the most recent figures are compared with corresponding data from 2000 to assess the trends over time in each state. To get a better understanding of the 10 key indicators used to rank states and to see variations within states on these indicators and more, visit the KIDS COUNT Data Center. The KIDS COUNT Data Center has hundreds of indicators of child well-being at the national, state, city, county, and community levels.

The 10 key indicators of child well-being used here are all derived from federal government statistical agencies and reflect the best available state-level data for tracking yearly changes in each indicator. However, it is important to recognize that many of the indicators used here are derived from samples, and like all sample data, they contain some random error. Other measures (the Infant Mortality Rate and the Child Death Rate, for example) are based on relatively small numbers of events in some states and may exhibit some random fluctuation from year to year. Therefore, we urge readers to focus on relatively large differences—both across states and over time within a state. Small differences, within a state over time or between states, may simply reflect random fluctuations, rather than real changes in the well-being of children. Assessing trends by looking at changes over a longer period of time is more reliable. Yearly data since 2000 for each state are presented in Appendix 1.

We include data for the District of Columbia in the *Data Book*, but we do not include the District in our state rankings because it is so different from any state that the comparisons are not meaningful. It is more useful to look at changes within the District of Columbia since 2000, or to compare the District with other large cities. As of January 2008, data for many child well-being indicators for the 50 largest cities (including the District) are available at the KIDS COUNT Data Center. This year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* also includes data for Puerto Rico (see page 38). Information for the U.S. Virgin Islands was not available in time to be included in this year's publication, but limited information is available at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

National Trends in Child Well-Being

The data on the following pages present a rich but complex picture of American children. Some dimensions of well-being improved, some worsened, and some showed little change. However, the overriding picture that these 10 indicators present is one of little change since 2000. (See the USA Profile on page 64.) At the national level, 6 of the 10 indicators of child well-being showed that conditions improved since 2000, while child well-being worsened on 4 indicators. It should be noted, however, that many of

Find more information on the 10 key indicators at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org

these changes were very small and may be random fluctuations in the data. The portrait of child well-being varies among states, and state-level measures often mask important differences within a state. Additional information on child well-being for cities, counties, school districts, and other levels of geography can be found at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

The portrait of change in child well-being since 2000 stands in stark contrast to the period just prior to 2000. Between 1996 and 2000, 8 of the 10 key indicators used in KIDS COUNT improved, and several improved dramatically. The improvement was experienced by every major racial group and in nearly all of the states.

Pre- and post-2000 trends are clearly illustrated by changes in the rate of child poverty since the mid-1990s. Between 1994 and 2000, the child poverty rate fell by 30 percent. This was the largest decrease in child poverty since the 1960s. Since 2000, however, improvements have stalled. In fact, the child poverty rate has increased by 6 percent, meaning that nearly 900,000 more children lived in poverty in 2007 than in 2000.

It is important to note that the data in this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* do not reflect the current period of economic recession at the national level. The economic indicators included in the *Data Book* come from the 2007 American Community Survey, which reflects information for the 12 months prior to the survey date. The effects of the economic downturn were not felt by most U.S. families until well into 2008 and 2009.

Table 2 provides a summary of results from this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and highlights the enormous variation among the states. The rates of the worst states are approximately two to five times those of the best states on every indicator.

The importance of reporting state-level data is underscored by the fact that most measures in most states are statistically significantly different from the national value for each measure. In other words, the national value for a measure does not tell you much about most states. Tables showing the statistical significance of differences among states and changes over time are provided at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

The *KIDS COUNT Data Book* utilizes rates and percentages because that is the best way to compare states to each other and to assess changes over time within a state. However, our focus on rates and percentages may mask the magnitude of some of the problems that are examined in this report. The number of events or number of children reflected in each of the national rates for the 10 key indicators used to rank states are provided on corresponding indicator pages. These data underscore the fact that thousands of children die every year, and millions are at risk because of poverty, family structure, lack of parental employment, or risky behavior. Similar data showing the numbers behind the state rates are offered in Appendix 1 and at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

TABLE 2 Highest and Lowest Ranking States

Key Indicators		HIGHEST RANKING VALUE	HIGHEST RANKING STATE(S)	LOWEST RANKING VALUE	LOWEST RANKING STATE(S)
Percent low-birthweight babies	2006	6.0	Alaska	12.4	Mississippi
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2006	4.7	Washington	10.6	Mississippi
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2006	9	Connecticut	33	Alaska
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2006	34	Rhode Island	98	Arkansas, Arizona
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2006	19	New Hampshire	68	Mississippi
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2007	2	North Dakota	11	Nevada
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2007	4	Minnesota, North Dakota	13	Nevada
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2007	24	Utah	43	Mississippi
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2007	9	New Hampshire	29	Mississippi
Percent of children in single-parent families	2007	18	Utah	44	Mississippi

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 136.

Find more state rankings at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org

Child Well-Being in Puerto Rico

Beginning in 2007, data on child well-being for children living on the island of Puerto Rico have been included in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book*. The data for Puerto Rico come from the same data sources as the information we include for the 50 states and the District of Columbia. As data have only been available recently for all 10 indicators, we are unable to include information on trends in this year's *Data Book*. In addition, we do not include Puerto Rico in our state rankings, as comparisons with states are not meaningful on many indicators. Currently, data for these indicators are not available for the U.S. Virgin Islands, although we hope to have information from the Virgin Islands Community Survey for inclusion in the future.

- In 2007, there were an estimated 1 million children on the island of Puerto Rico. This represents a larger child population than that of about half of the states in the United States.
- On 9 of the 10 key measures of child well-being, these children face higher levels of risk overall than the U.S. average.
- The child poverty rate for Puerto Rico (55 percent) is more than three times the level in the United States as a whole (18 percent).
- Babies born in Puerto Rico are far more likely to be of low birthweight (13 percent) and born to teen mothers (60 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19) than in the United States overall (8.3 percent and 42 per 1,000, respectively).
- However, the rate of deaths among children ages 1 to 14 (12 per 100,000) is lower than the national rate.

TABLE 3 10 Key Indicators of Child Well-Being in Puerto Rico: 2006/2007

Key Indicators		PUERTO RICO NUMBER	PUERTO RICO RATE	U.S. RATE
Percent low-birthweight babies	2006	6,316	13.0	8.3
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2006	426	8.8	6.7
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2006	94	12	19
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2006	197	66	64
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2006	8,762	60	42
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2007	20,000	8	7
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2007	36,000	15	8
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2007	551,000	55	33
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2007	535,000	55	18
Percent of children in single-parent families	2007	447,000	49	32

Find more information on Puerto Rico at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/pr

Ranking States on Composite Index

Data from all 10 key indicators are used to develop a composite index of child well-being for each state. The Overall Rank Table and Map show how states rank, based on the 10-item index.

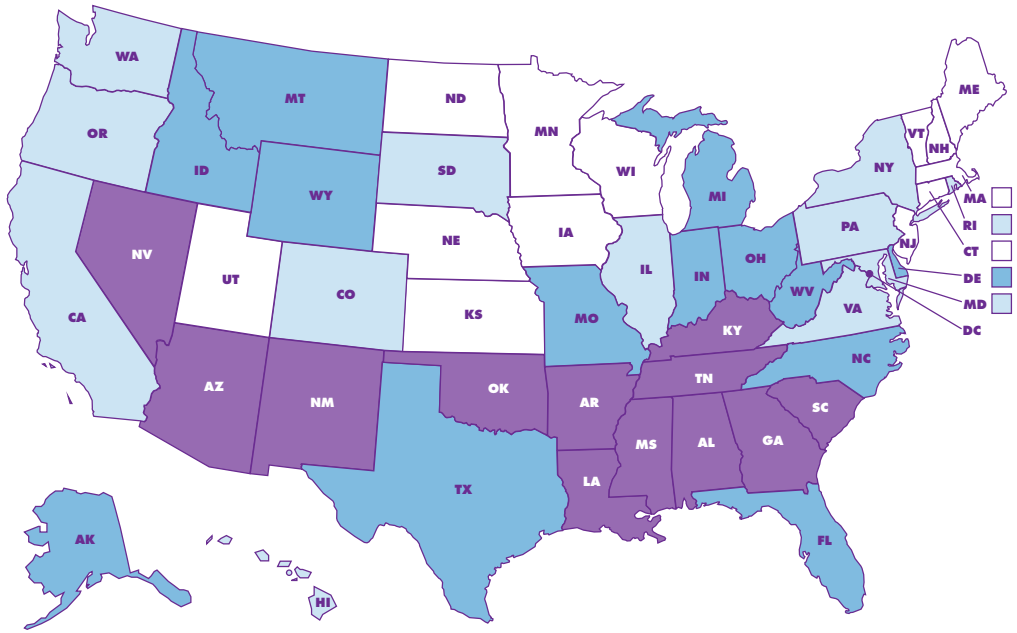
The state that ranks highest (best), based on the composite index, is New Hampshire. Minnesota ranks second, and Utah ranks third. The three states at the bottom of the ranking are Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama.

The Overall Rank Map also reflects a couple of regional overtones. The New England states and a group of states in the Northern Plains all rank relatively high. Except for Maine and Rhode Island, all of the New England states rank in the top 10. In the Northern Plains, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin are all ranked in the top 10.

At the other end of the spectrum, states in the South and Southwest dominate the lower part of the ranking. The 10 states with the lowest Overall Rank in terms of child well-being are all located in the South or Southwest.

Find more information on ranking states using the composite index at the Publications section of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Overall Rank: 2009



Rank 1–13
Rank 14–25
Rank 26–38
Rank 39–50

A state's Overall Rank is determined by the sum of the state's standing on each of 10 measures of the condition of children arranged in sequential order from highest/best (1) to lowest/worst (50). See Definitions and Data Sources on the KIDS COUNT website.

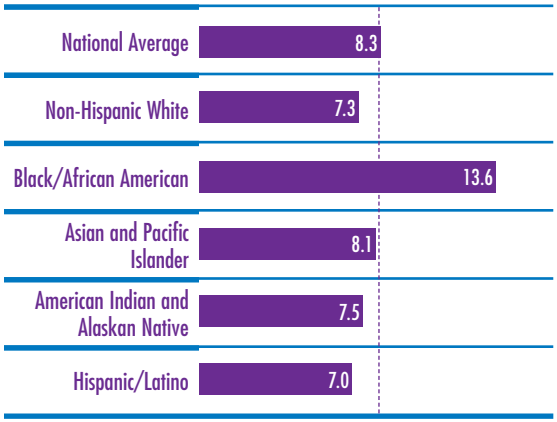
Rank	State	Rank	State
1	New Hampshire	27	Michigan
2	Minnesota	28	Ohio
3	Utah	29	Delaware
4	Connecticut	30	Montana
5	Massachusetts	31	Indiana
6	Iowa	32	Wyoming
7	North Dakota	33	Missouri
8	Vermont	34	Texas
9	New Jersey	35	Alaska
10	Wisconsin	36	Florida
11	Nebraska	37	North Carolina
12	Maine	38	West Virginia
13	Kansas	39	Nevada
14	Washington	40	Arizona
15	Rhode Island	41	Kentucky
16	Virginia	42	Georgia
17	New York	43	New Mexico
18	Hawaii	44	Oklahoma
19	Oregon	45	South Carolina
20	California	46	Tennessee
21	South Dakota	47	Arkansas
22	Colorado	48	Alabama
23	Pennsylvania	49	Louisiana
24	Illinois	50	Mississippi
25	Maryland	N.R.	District of Columbia
26	Idaho		

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies

Newborn babies remind us of the potential that exists in every new generation. Yet, some newborns face stiffer odds than other babies to thrive. Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth have a high probability of experiencing developmental problems. Low-birthweight infants are at greater risk of dying within the first year of life and of experiencing both short- and long-term disabilities than those with a higher birthweight. Although recent increases in multiple births have strongly influenced the rise in rates of low-birthweight babies, rates have also been higher among singleton deliveries.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006

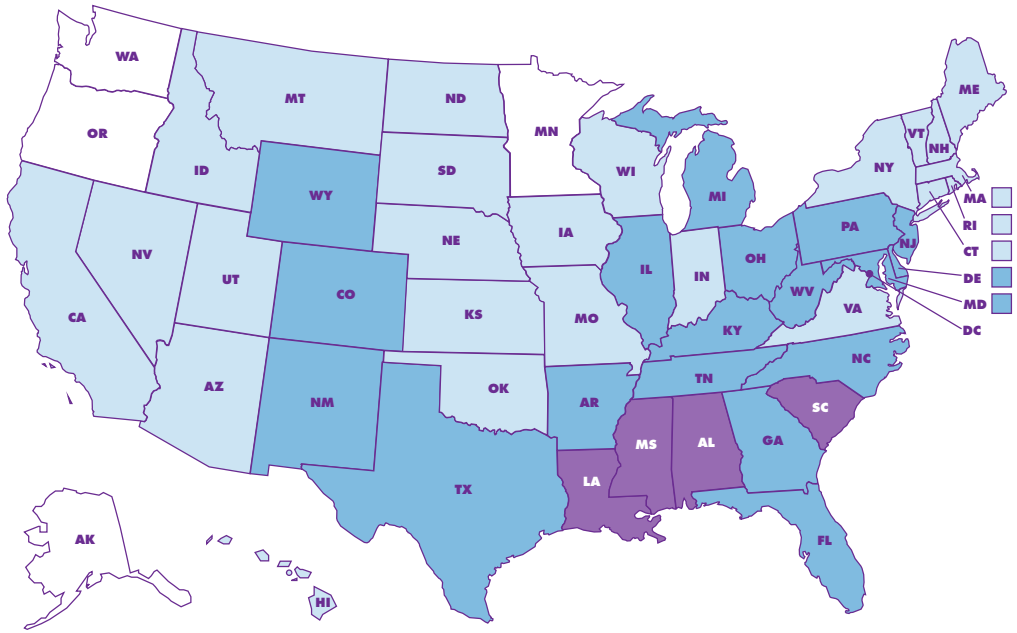


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

- Nationally, 351,974 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in 2006. Low-birthweight babies were 8.3 percent of all live births in 2006, compared to 7.6 percent in 2000. This represents a 9 percent increase in rate of low-weight births over the 2000 to 2006 period and is now at the highest level in four decades.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the percent of low-birthweight babies worsened in every state and only showed some improvement in the District of Columbia.
- Of the low-birthweight babies born in 2006, 63,309 were very low birthweight (less than 1,500 grams, or 3.25 pounds). These babies are among the most vulnerable as nearly one out of four babies born very low birthweight did not survive their first year of life in 2005.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the level of low-birthweight babies either rose or remained the same for all five of the largest racial and ethnic groups.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies: 2006*



More than 20% better than state median (6.6 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (6.7 to 8.3)

Up to 20% worse than state median (8.4 to 10.0)

More than 20% worse than state median (10.1 and higher)

** Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth.*

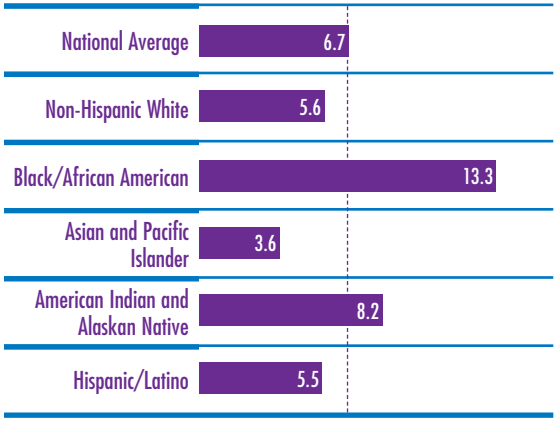
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Alaska	6.0	25	Oklahoma	8.3
2	Oregon	6.1	25	Virginia	8.3
3	Minnesota	6.5	29	Michigan	8.4
3	Washington	6.5	29	Texas	8.4
5	North Dakota	6.7	31	Pennsylvania	8.5
6	California	6.8	32	Illinois	8.6
6	Maine	6.8	32	New Jersey	8.6
8	Idaho	6.9	34	Florida	8.7
8	Iowa	6.9	35	Ohio	8.8
8	New Hampshire	6.9	36	Colorado	8.9
8	Utah	6.9	36	New Mexico	8.9
8	Vermont	6.9	36	Wyoming	8.9
8	Wisconsin	6.9	39	Kentucky	9.1
14	South Dakota	7.0	39	North Carolina	9.1
15	Arizona	7.1	41	Arkansas	9.2
15	Nebraska	7.1	42	Delaware	9.3
17	Kansas	7.2	43	Maryland	9.4
18	Montana	7.3	44	Georgia	9.6
19	Massachusetts	7.9	44	Tennessee	9.6
20	Rhode Island	8.0	46	West Virginia	9.7
21	Connecticut	8.1	47	South Carolina	10.1
21	Hawaii	8.1	48	Alabama	10.5
21	Missouri	8.1	49	Louisiana	11.4
24	Indiana	8.2	50	Mississippi	12.4
25	Nevada	8.3	N.R.	District of Columbia	11.5
25	New York	8.3			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Infant Mortality Rate

Since the first year of life is more precarious than later years of childhood, negative social conditions (such as poverty and an unhealthy physical environment) have a bigger impact on newborns. The number of children who die before their first birthday is reflected in the Infant Mortality Rate, defined as the number of deaths to persons less than 1 year old per 1,000 live births during the year. After remaining flat or barely increasing over the past several years, the Infant Mortality Rate improved slightly in 2006.

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006

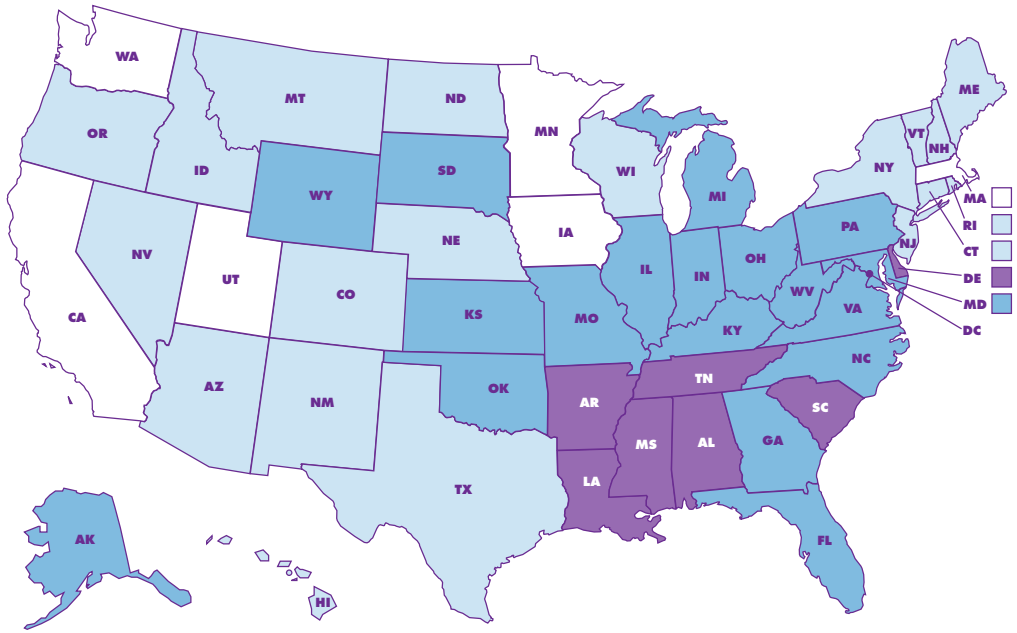


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

- During 2006, 28,527 infants under age 1 died in the United States, about 78 infants each day. This represents 6.7 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the Infant Mortality Rate improved in 32 states and the District of Columbia and deteriorated in 18 states.
- The Infant Mortality Rate in 2006 ranged from a low of 4.7 in Washington to a high of 10.6 in Mississippi. However, some rates are based on a relatively small number of infant deaths and may not be a very good gauge of the underlying risk of death.
- According to UNICEF's report, *The State of the World's Children 2009*, the United States has the highest Infant Mortality Rate among all economically advanced nations. The Infant Mortality Rate for African-American children in 2006 (13.3 deaths per 1,000 births) is on par with such countries as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, and Vietnam.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births): 2006



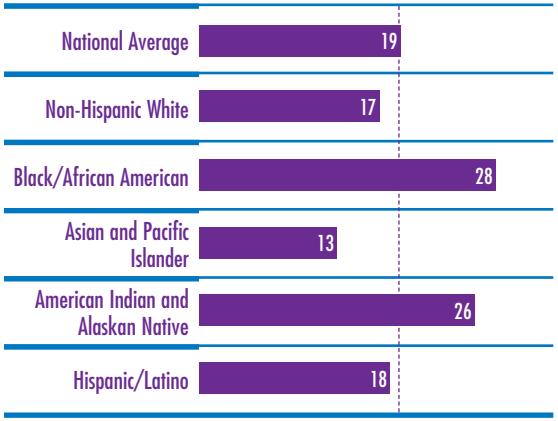
- More than 20% better than state median (5.4 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (5.5 to 6.8)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (6.9 to 8.2)
- More than 20% worse than state median (8.3 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Washington	4.7	26	South Dakota	6.9
2	Massachusetts	4.8	28	Wyoming	7.0
3	California	5.0	29	Kansas	7.1
4	Iowa	5.1	29	Virginia	7.1
4	Utah	5.1	31	Illinois	7.2
6	Minnesota	5.2	32	Florida	7.3
7	New Jersey	5.5	33	Michigan	7.4
7	Oregon	5.5	33	Missouri	7.4
7	Vermont	5.5	33	West Virginia	7.4
10	Hawaii	5.6	36	Kentucky	7.5
10	Nebraska	5.6	37	Pennsylvania	7.6
10	New York	5.6	38	Ohio	7.8
13	Colorado	5.7	39	Maryland	7.9
14	Montana	5.8	40	Indiana	8.0
14	New Mexico	5.8	40	Oklahoma	8.0
14	North Dakota	5.8	42	Georgia	8.1
17	New Hampshire	6.1	42	North Carolina	8.1
17	Rhode Island	6.1	44	Delaware	8.3
19	Connecticut	6.2	45	South Carolina	8.4
19	Texas	6.2	46	Arkansas	8.5
21	Maine	6.3	47	Tennessee	8.7
22	Arizona	6.4	48	Alabama	9.0
22	Nevada	6.4	49	Louisiana	9.9
22	Wisconsin	6.4	50	Mississippi	10.6
25	Idaho	6.8	N.R.	District of Columbia	11.3
26	Alaska	6.9			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Child Death Rate

Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

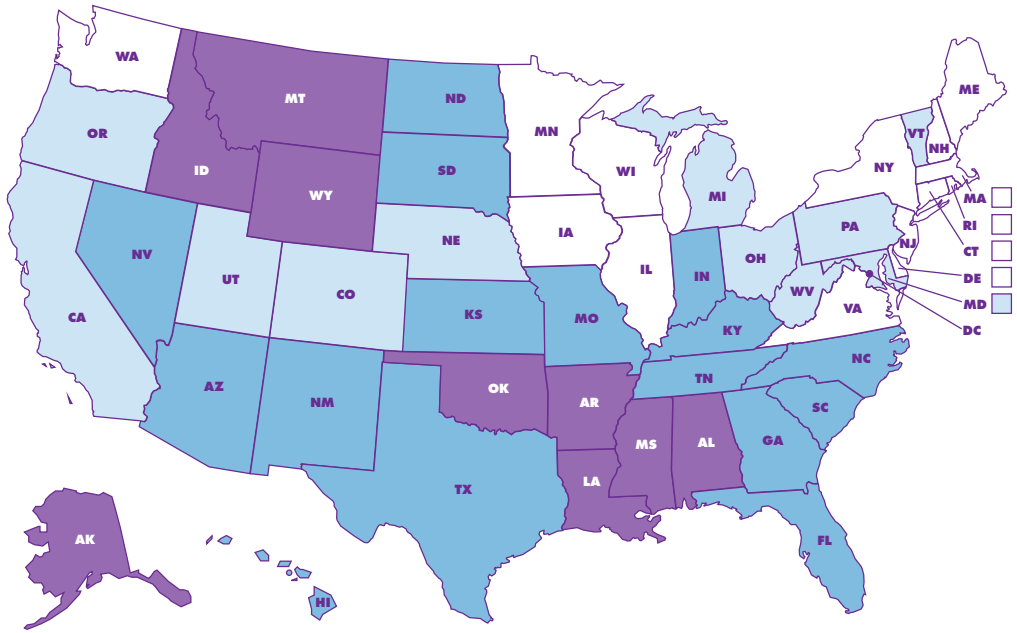
The Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) has fallen steadily for the past several years, in large part because of advances in medical care. The general decrease in deaths from motor vehicle accidents, which accounted for one out of five child deaths in 2006, also has contributed to a declining Child Death Rate.

Accidents are the leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 14. However, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control reports that for each injury-related death in 2006, there were more than 1,500 injury-related emergency room visits and about 21 hospital admissions for children who survived their injuries.

Many young children die in automobile accidents because they are not wearing a seat belt. Nearly half of the children under age 15 who died in traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt or other restraint.

- During 2006, 10,780 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in the United States, an average of 30 deaths per day.
- The Child Death Rate inched downward from 22 out of every 100,000 children in this age range in 2000, to 19 deaths per 100,000 in 2006.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the Child Death Rate decreased in 41 states, increased in 8, and was unchanged in Alabama and the District of Columbia.
- The Child Death Rate in 2006 ranged from 9 in Connecticut to 33 in Alaska.
- The Child Death Rates for American Indians and Alaskan Natives and African Americans (26 and 28 deaths per 100,000, respectively) are the highest of all major racial and ethnic groups.

Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14): 2006



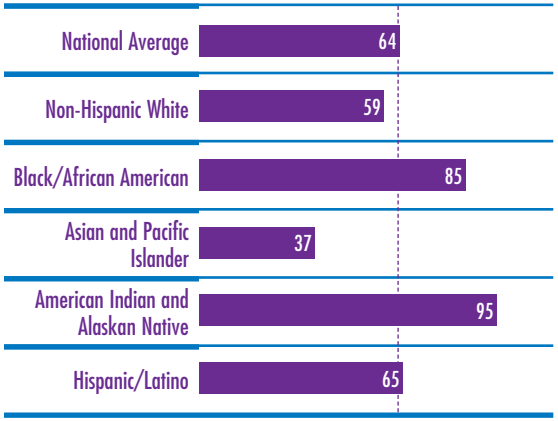
- More than 20% better than state median (16 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (17 to 20)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (21 to 24)
- More than 20% worse than state median (25 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Connecticut	9	26	Hawaii	21
2	Massachusetts	11	26	Kansas	21
3	New Hampshire	12	26	Kentucky	21
4	Delaware	13	26	Missouri	21
4	New Jersey	13	26	Nevada	21
6	New York	14	26	North Carolina	21
6	Washington	14	26	Texas	21
8	Wisconsin	15	34	Arizona	22
9	Illinois	16	34	New Mexico	22
9	Iowa	16	34	South Carolina	22
9	Maine	16	34	South Dakota	22
9	Minnesota	16	34	Tennessee	22
9	Rhode Island	16	39	Florida	23
9	Virginia	16	39	North Dakota	23
15	California	17	41	Indiana	24
16	Maryland	18	42	Louisiana	26
16	Michigan	18	43	Alabama	27
16	Pennsylvania	18	44	Arkansas	28
16	Vermont	18	45	Idaho	29
20	Colorado	19	45	Oklahoma	29
20	Nebraska	19	47	Mississippi	30
20	Utah	19	47	Montana	30
20	West Virginia	19	49	Wyoming	31
24	Ohio	20	50	Alaska	33
24	Oregon	20	N.R.	District of Columbia	31
26	Georgia	21			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Teen Death Rate

Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

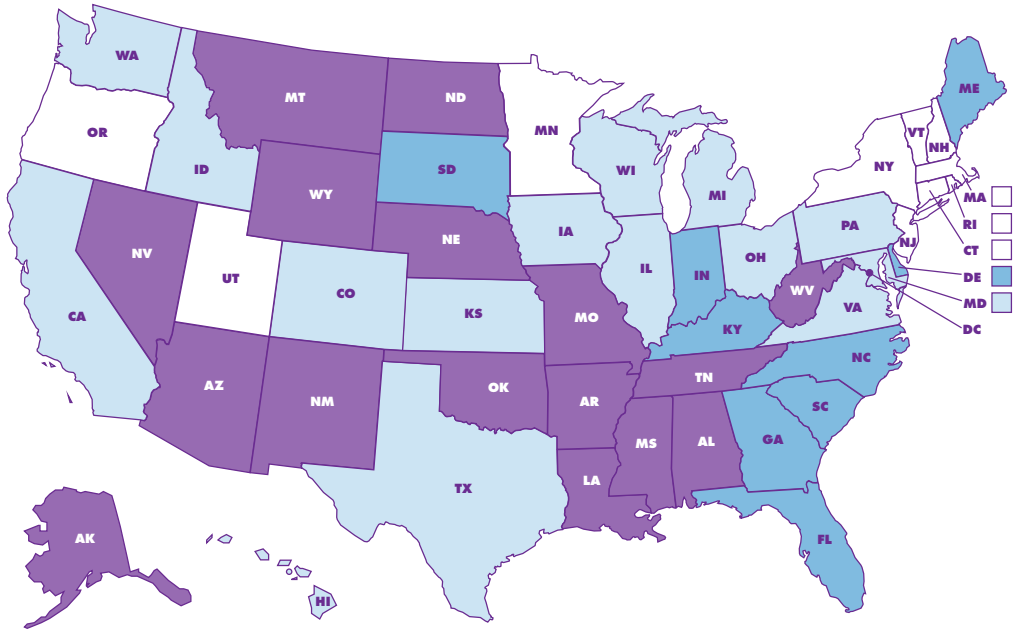
Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

As people move into their middle and late teenage years, they encounter many new risks that can cost them their life. The Teen Death Rate reflects deaths among 15- to 19-year-olds (per 100,000 teens in this age group) from all causes. It is worth noting that deaths from accidents, homicides, and suicides accounted for 76 percent of all deaths in this age group in 2006.

Accidents continue to account for at least three times as many teen deaths as any other single cause, including homicide. Most of the lethal accidents are automobile accidents. In 2006, 6,659 teens died due to accidents (4,939 deaths were due to motor vehicle accidents), 2,291 teen deaths were due to homicide, and 1,555 teen deaths were due to suicide.

- In 2006, 13,739 adolescents ages 15 to 19 died. This is the equivalent of the number of passengers on 39 jumbo jets. Virtually all of these deaths were preventable.
- The Teen Death Rate inched downward from 67 deaths per 100,000 teens in 2000 to 64 deaths in 2006. The Teen Death Rate had been steadily declining between 1990 and about 1998, when progress began to slow. In 2006, the Teen Death Rate was only slightly lower than in 1998.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the Teen Death Rate declined in 29 states (and the District of Columbia), increased in 19 states, and remained unchanged in 2.
- Among the states, the Teen Death Rate in 2006 ranged from a low of 34 in Rhode Island to a high of 98 in Arkansas and Arizona.
- The Teen Death Rate for American Indians and Alaskan Natives is nearly 50 percent higher than the national average.

Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19): 2006



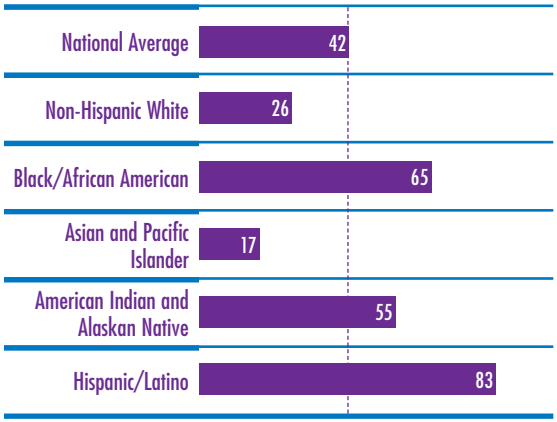
- More than 20% better than state median (54 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (55 to 67)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (68 to 80)
- More than 20% worse than state median (81 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Rhode Island	34	27	Indiana	69
2	Massachusetts	35	28	Delaware	71
3	New Hampshire	38	28	Georgia	71
4	New York	43	28	North Carolina	71
5	Connecticut	48	31	Florida	72
6	New Jersey	50	32	Kentucky	75
7	Minnesota	51	32	South Carolina	75
7	Oregon	51	34	South Dakota	80
9	Utah	54	35	Nebraska	83
9	Vermont	54	35	Wyoming	83
11	Michigan	55	37	Montana	84
12	Ohio	56	37	New Mexico	84
13	Hawaii	57	37	West Virginia	84
14	Iowa	58	40	Oklahoma	85
15	Wisconsin	59	41	Missouri	87
16	California	60	41	North Dakota	87
16	Illinois	60	43	Louisiana	89
16	Virginia	60	44	Alaska	91
16	Washington	60	44	Mississippi	91
20	Pennsylvania	61	44	Tennessee	91
21	Kansas	63	47	Alabama	93
22	Colorado	64	47	Nevada	93
22	Maryland	64	49	Arizona	98
22	Texas	64	49	Arkansas	98
25	Idaho	67	N.R.	District of Columbia	84
26	Maine	68			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Teen Birth Rate

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2006



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

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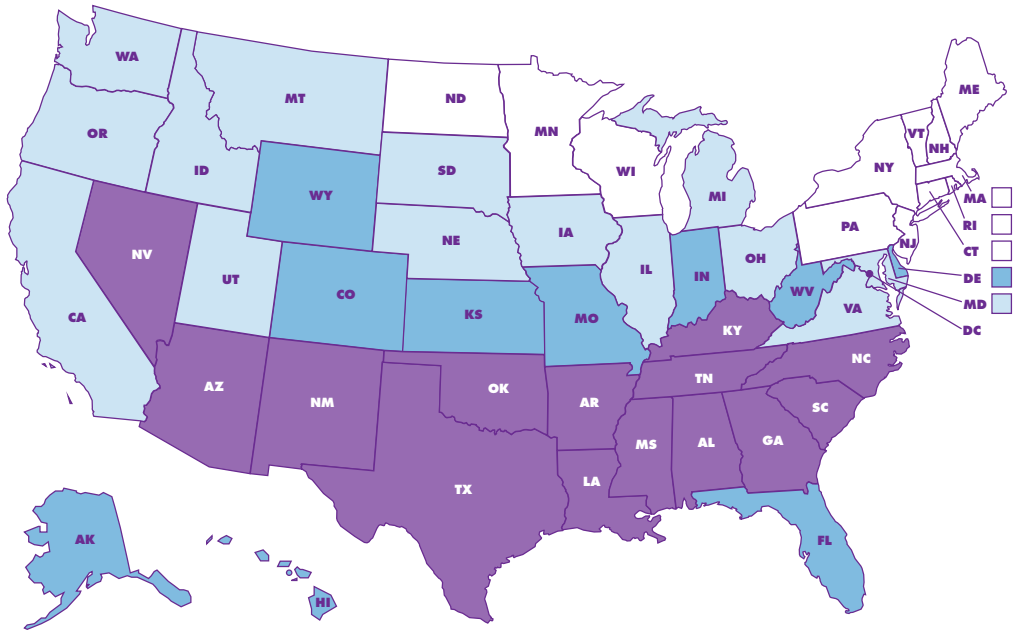
As Americans, we believe that every child should have a shot at achieving their full potential: getting a good education, securing a job that pays well, and raising a family of their own. But not all children have these opportunities. Teenage childbearing can have long-term negative effects on both the adolescent mother and the newborn. Babies born to teen mothers are at higher risk of being low birthweight and preterm. They are also far more likely to be born into families with limited educational and economic resources.

Although the 2006 Teen Birth Rate is still lower than it was in 2000, the latest data show an increase in the rate of teen girls giving birth for the first time in more than a decade. Between 2005 and 2006, the rate increased from 40 to 42 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19. Preliminary data for 2007 show the rate continuing to rise.

- In 2006, there were 435,436 babies born to females ages 15 to 19. That represents about 1,193 births to teens each day.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the Teen Birth Rate decreased in 44 states and the District of Columbia; was unchanged in Kentucky, North Dakota, and Oklahoma; and increased in South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming.
- Among the states, the Teen Birth Rate in 2006 ranged from a low of 19 in New Hampshire to a high of 68 in Mississippi.
- The latest increase in the Teen Birth Rate has affected all racial and ethnic groups except Asians and Pacific Islanders and non-Hispanic white teens, whose rates of teen birth remain among the lowest of all large racial and ethnic groups.

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19): 2006



- More than 20% better than state median (32 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (33 to 40)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (41 to 48)
- More than 20% worse than state median (49 and higher)

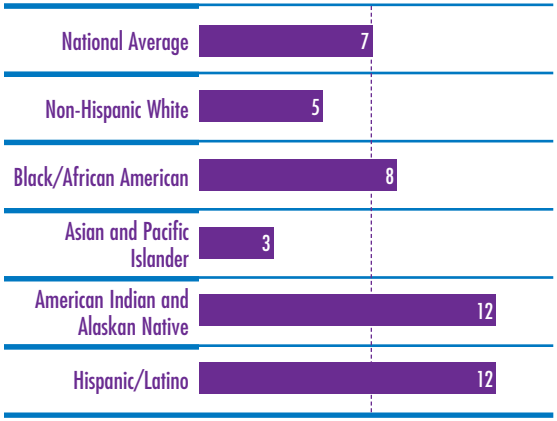
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	19	27	Hawaii	41
2	Massachusetts	21	28	Delaware	42
2	Vermont	21	28	Kansas	42
4	Connecticut	24	30	Alaska	44
5	New Jersey	25	30	Colorado	44
6	Maine	26	30	Indiana	44
6	New York	26	33	Florida	45
8	North Dakota	27	33	West Virginia	45
9	Minnesota	28	35	Missouri	46
9	Rhode Island	28	36	Wyoming	47
11	Pennsylvania	31	37	North Carolina	50
11	Wisconsin	31	38	South Carolina	53
13	Iowa	33	39	Alabama	54
13	Nebraska	33	39	Georgia	54
13	Washington	33	39	Louisiana	54
16	Maryland	34	42	Kentucky	55
16	Michigan	34	42	Tennessee	55
16	Utah	34	44	Nevada	56
19	Virginia	35	45	Oklahoma	60
20	Oregon	36	46	Arizona	62
21	Idaho	39	46	Arkansas	62
21	Illinois	39	48	Texas	63
23	California	40	49	New Mexico	64
23	Montana	40	50	Mississippi	68
23	Ohio	40	N.R.	District of Columbia	48
23	South Dakota	40			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts

As America moves further into the 21st century, advanced skills and technical knowledge will be required for a healthy economy. We have a responsibility to ensure that our future workforce can compete on a global scale. Graduating from high school is critical for obtaining post-secondary education and getting a good job. Adolescents who don't complete high school will find it difficult to achieve financial success in adulthood.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (ages 16–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007

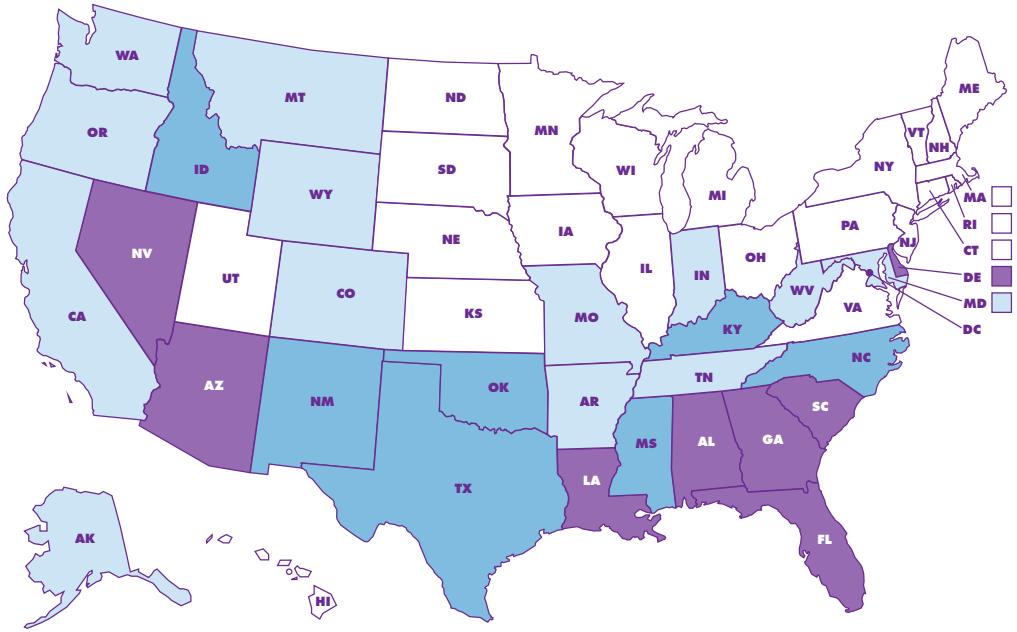


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

- Nationwide in 2007, there were about 1.2 million teens between the ages of 16 and 19 who were not in school and had not graduated from high school.
- The dropout rate in 2007 (7 percent) was 4 percentage points lower than the 11 percent rate in 2000. It should be noted that between 2000 and 2007, the group quarters population was added to the estimate so some caution must be used in making comparisons between the 2 reference years. However, 2007 estimates follow the same declining trend as evidenced over the past several years.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the dropout rate fell in 48 states (and the District of Columbia) and was unchanged in Maine and Montana.
- In 2007, the high school dropout rate ranged from a low of 2 percent in North Dakota to a high of 11 percent in Nevada.
- Although large gaps still exist, more teens across all five large racial and ethnic groups stayed in school and obtained a high school diploma or GED in 2007 than in 2000.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (ages 16–19): 2007



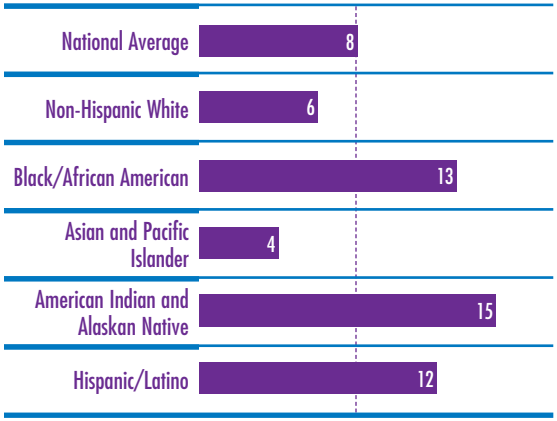
- More than 20% better than state median (6 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (7)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (8)
- More than 20% worse than state median (9 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	North Dakota	2	23	Indiana	7
2	Minnesota	3	23	Maryland	7
3	Connecticut	4	23	Missouri	7
3	Hawaii	4	23	Montana	7
3	Iowa	4	23	Oregon	7
3	Kansas	4	23	Tennessee	7
3	Nebraska	4	23	Washington	7
3	New Hampshire	4	23	West Virginia	7
3	Vermont	4	23	Wyoming	7
3	Wisconsin	4	36	Idaho	8
11	Maine	5	36	Kentucky	8
11	Massachusetts	5	36	Mississippi	8
11	Michigan	5	36	New Mexico	8
11	New Jersey	5	36	North Carolina	8
11	New York	5	36	Oklahoma	8
11	Ohio	5	36	Texas	8
11	Utah	5	43	Delaware	9
11	Virginia	5	43	Florida	9
19	Illinois	6	43	South Carolina	9
19	Pennsylvania	6	46	Alabama	10
19	Rhode Island	6	46	Arizona	10
19	South Dakota	6	46	Georgia	10
23	Alaska	7	46	Louisiana	10
23	Arkansas	7	50	Nevada	11
23	California	7	N.R.	District of Columbia	8
23	Colorado	7			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

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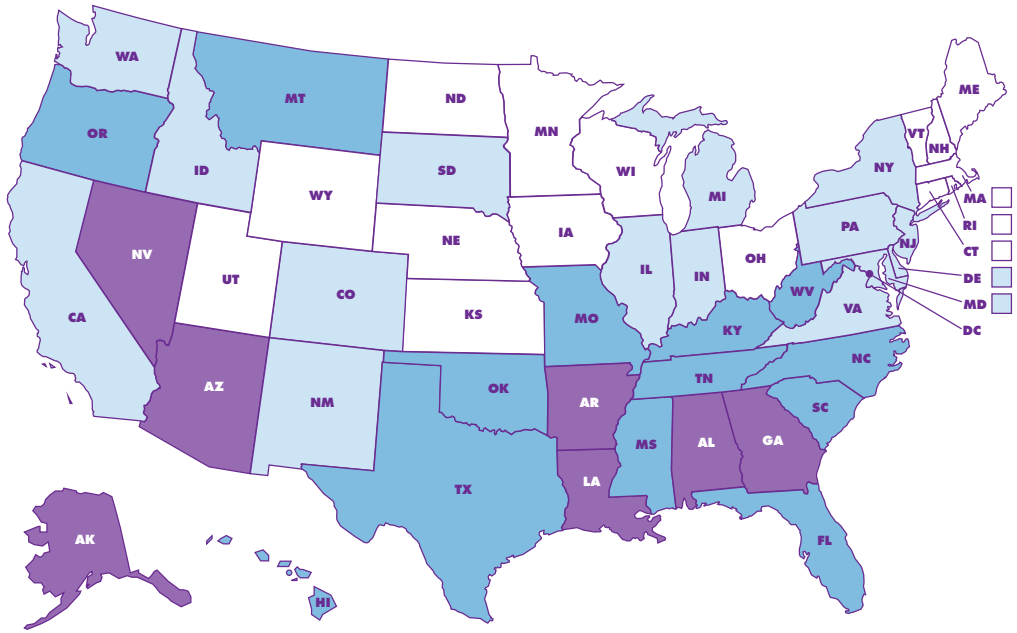
Ensuring that all adolescents have the opportunity to make a successful transition to adulthood is a key to a healthy society in the future. The Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (sometimes called "Idle Teens") reflects young people ages 16 to 19 who are not engaged in either of the core activities that usually occupy people during this crucial period in their lives. While those who have dropped out of school are clearly vulnerable, many young persons who have finished school but are not working are also at a disadvantage in achieving economic success in adulthood.

- In 2007, about 1.4 million teens between the ages of 16 and 19 were neither enrolled in school nor working.
- Nationwide, the share of 16- to 19-year-olds who were idle dropped slightly, from 9 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2007.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the share of Idle Teens fell in 30 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 6 states, and remained unchanged in 14 others. It should be noted that between 2000 and 2007, the group quarters population was added to the estimate so some caution must be used in making comparisons between the 2 reference years.
- Among the states, the Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working in 2007 ranged from a low of 4 percent in both Minnesota and North Dakota to a high of 13 percent in Nevada.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19): 2007



More than 20% better than state median (6 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (7 and 8)

Up to 20% worse than state median (9 and 10)

More than 20% worse than state median (11 and higher)

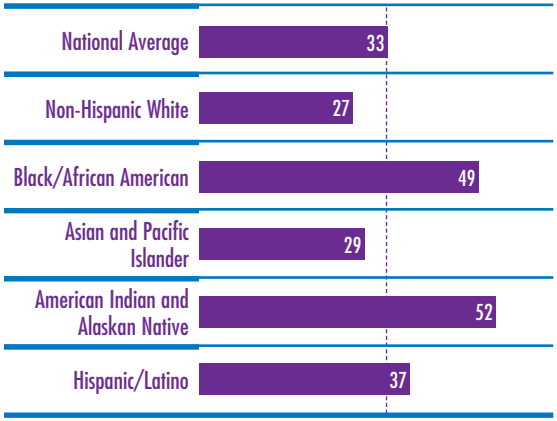
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Minnesota	4	23	Indiana	8
1	North Dakota	4	23	Maryland	8
3	Nebraska	5	23	New Mexico	8
3	New Hampshire	5	23	Washington	8
3	Vermont	5	31	Hawaii	9
3	Wisconsin	5	31	Kentucky	9
7	Connecticut	6	31	Missouri	9
7	Iowa	6	31	North Carolina	9
7	Kansas	6	31	Oklahoma	9
7	Maine	6	31	Oregon	9
7	Massachusetts	6	31	South Carolina	9
7	Ohio	6	31	Tennessee	9
7	Rhode Island	6	31	Texas	9
7	Utah	6	40	Florida	10
7	Wyoming	6	40	Mississippi	10
16	Colorado	7	40	Montana	10
16	Michigan	7	40	West Virginia	10
16	New Jersey	7	44	Alabama	11
16	New York	7	44	Alaska	11
16	Pennsylvania	7	44	Arizona	11
16	South Dakota	7	44	Arkansas	11
16	Virginia	7	44	Georgia	11
23	California	8	49	Louisiana	12
23	Delaware	8	50	Nevada	13
23	Idaho	8	N.R.	District of Columbia	11
23	Illinois	8			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment

Children thrive when parents have the opportunity to earn income sufficient to support their family. In 2007, 24.3 million children had no parent in the household who worked full-time, year-round. This measure is sometimes referred to as "lack of secure parental employment." In addition to having higher poverty rates, these children are more likely to lack access to the health and family benefits that a stable job provides. We found that 13 percent of children living in families where no parent had a full-time, year-round job lacked health insurance, compared to 9 percent in other families. Although there are significant benefits when a parent works, having one parent employed full-time, year-round is not a guarantee for economic security. Among children living in families maintained by two parents who were living below the poverty line, 44 percent had at least one parent working year-round, full-time.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007

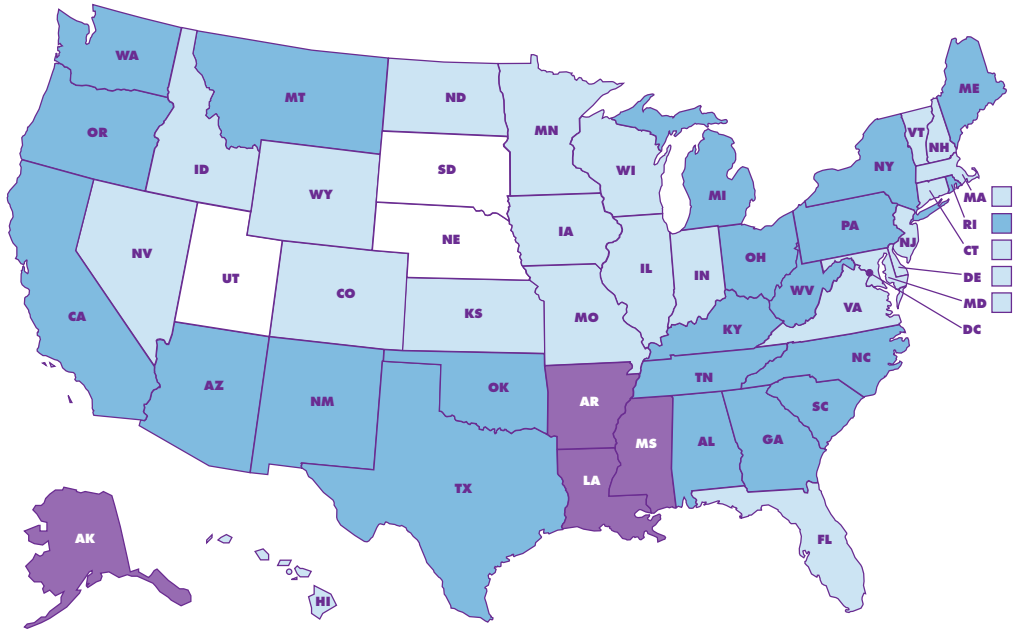


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

- Nationally, the Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment increased from 32 percent in 2000 to 33 percent in 2007.
- During that period, this measure improved in 12 states (plus the District of Columbia), got worse in 33 others, and was unchanged in 5 states.
- Among the states, the 2007 figures ranged from a low of 24 percent in Utah to a high of 43 percent in Mississippi (and the District of Columbia).
- Although significant gaps still exist, the rate of children living without a securely employed parent has decreased across all major racial and ethnic groups over the past several decades.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment: 2007



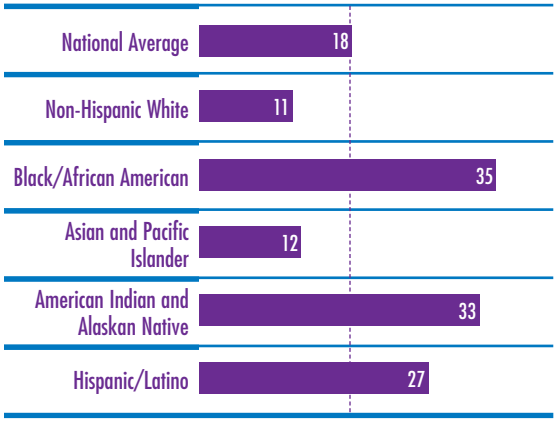
- More than 20% better than state median (26 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (27 to 32)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (33 to 38)
- More than 20% worse than state median (39 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Utah	24	26	Georgia	33
2	Nebraska	26	26	Maine	33
2	South Dakota	26	26	New York	33
4	Iowa	27	26	North Carolina	33
4	Kansas	27	26	Pennsylvania	33
4	New Hampshire	27	26	Texas	33
7	Maryland	28	33	Montana	34
7	Minnesota	28	33	Ohio	34
7	New Jersey	28	33	Rhode Island	34
7	North Dakota	28	33	South Carolina	34
7	Virginia	28	33	Washington	34
12	Connecticut	29	38	California	35
12	Wisconsin	29	38	Oklahoma	35
14	Colorado	31	38	Oregon	35
14	Delaware	31	41	Michigan	36
14	Illinois	31	41	Tennessee	36
14	Missouri	31	43	Alabama	37
14	Vermont	31	44	Kentucky	38
14	Wyoming	31	44	New Mexico	38
20	Florida	32	44	West Virginia	38
20	Hawaii	32	47	Alaska	39
20	Idaho	32	47	Arkansas	39
20	Indiana	32	49	Louisiana	40
20	Massachusetts	32	50	Mississippi	43
20	Nevada	32	N.R.	District of Columbia	43
26	Arizona	33			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children in Poverty

Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

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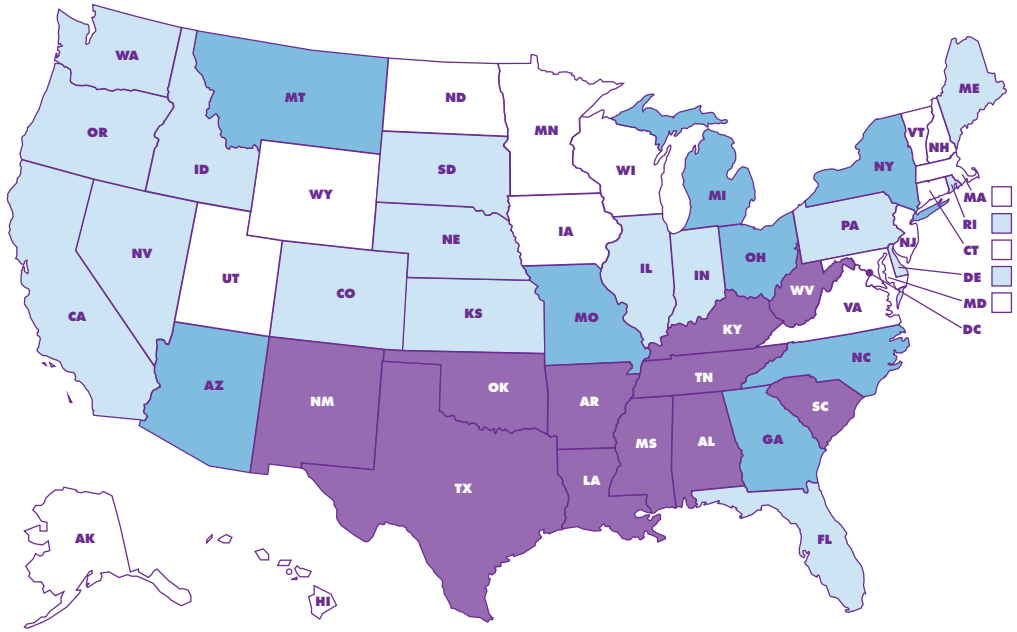
It's critical that we as a nation ensure that all children have the opportunity to become productive members of our society. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to experience many undesirable outcomes in such areas as health, education, and emotional welfare. The Percent of Children in Poverty is perhaps the most global and widely used indicator of child well-being. Our data are based on the official poverty measure as determined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The measure consists of a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition. The 2007 poverty line was $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children.

Despite our nation's enormous wealth, a recent UNICEF Innocenti Research Center report shows that more children are living in relative poverty in the United States than in any other economically advanced nation. This gap partly reflects differences in private-sector income, but differences in governmental efforts to alleviate child poverty greatly accentuate the disparities.

- In 2007, 18 percent of children (13.1 million) were poor, up from 17 percent in 2000. This represents about 900,000 more children living in poor households in 2007 than in 2000.
- Between 2000 and 2007, child poverty increased in 32 states, decreased in 14 states (plus the District of Columbia), and was unchanged in 4.
- Among the states, the child poverty rate for 2007 ranged from a low of 9 percent in New Hampshire to a high of 29 percent in Mississippi.
- The rates of children living in households with incomes below the poverty threshold increased between 2000 and 2007 for all large racial and ethnic groups except Latino and Asian and Pacific Islander children.

Percent of Children in Poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007): 2007



- More than 20% better than state median (14 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (15 to 17)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (18 to 20)
- More than 20% worse than state median (21 and higher)

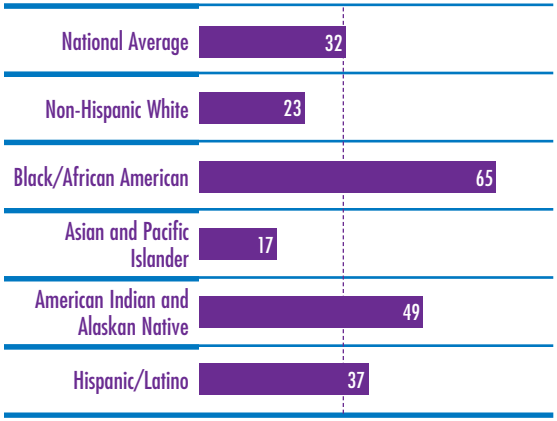
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	9	25	Illinois	17
2	Hawaii	10	25	Indiana	17
2	Maryland	10	25	Oregon	17
4	Alaska	11	25	Rhode Island	17
4	Connecticut	11	25	South Dakota	17
4	Utah	11	32	Missouri	18
7	Minnesota	12	32	Montana	18
7	New Jersey	12	34	Michigan	19
7	Vermont	12	34	New York	19
7	Wyoming	12	34	Ohio	19
11	Massachusetts	13	37	Arizona	20
11	North Dakota	13	37	Georgia	20
11	Virginia	13	37	North Carolina	20
14	Iowa	14	40	South Carolina	21
14	Wisconsin	14	41	Oklahoma	22
16	Delaware	15	42	Tennessee	23
16	Kansas	15	42	Texas	23
16	Maine	15	42	West Virginia	23
16	Nebraska	15	45	Alabama	24
16	Nevada	15	45	Kentucky	24
16	Washington	15	47	New Mexico	25
22	Colorado	16	48	Arkansas	26
22	Idaho	16	49	Louisiana	27
22	Pennsylvania	16	50	Mississippi	29
25	California	17	N.R.	District of Columbia	23
25	Florida	17			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families

Much of the public interest in family structure is linked to the fact that children growing up in single-parent families typically do not have the same economic or human resources available as those growing up in two-parent families. In 2007, 32 percent of single-parent families with related children had incomes below the poverty line, compared to 6 percent of married-couple families with children. Only one-third of female-headed families reported receiving any child support or alimony payments in 2006. The U.S. Census Bureau defines single-parent families as those families headed by an unmarried adult.

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007

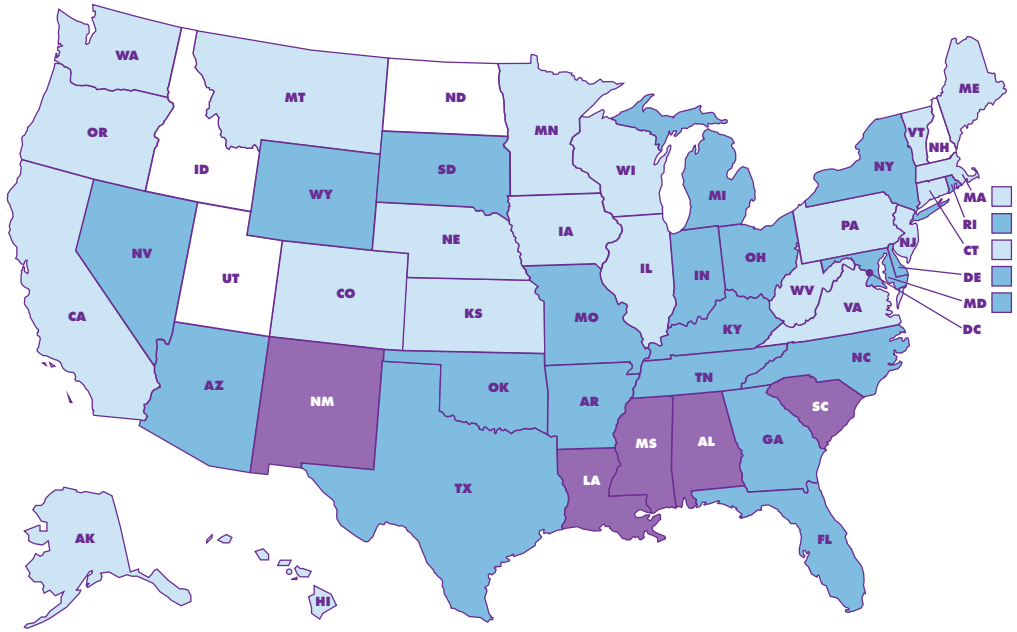


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

- About 22.3 million children lived in single-parent families in 2007.
- Nationwide, there was a slight increase in the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families, from 31 percent in 2000 to 32 percent in 2007.
- During this period, 4 states and the District of Columbia recorded a decrease in the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families, 13 states reported no change in this measure, while the situation worsened in 33 states.
- In 2007, the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families ranged from a low of 18 percent in Utah to a high of 44 percent in Mississippi.
- Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of African-American children lived in single-parent families, compared to a little more than one-third (37 percent) for Latinos and slightly less than one-fourth (23 percent) for non-Hispanic whites.

Find more information at the Indicator Briefs and Definitions sections of the KIDS COUNT website: www.kidscount.org

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families: 2007



- More than 20% better than state median (25 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (26 to 31)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (32 to 37)
- More than 20% worse than state median (38 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Utah	18	26	Michigan	32
2	Idaho	22	26	Missouri	32
3	North Dakota	24	26	South Dakota	32
4	New Hampshire	25	26	Texas	32
5	Minnesota	26	31	Kentucky	33
5	Montana	26	31	Maryland	33
7	Iowa	27	31	Nevada	33
7	Kansas	27	31	Ohio	33
7	Nebraska	27	31	Oklahoma	33
10	Colorado	28	31	Rhode Island	33
10	Connecticut	28	31	Wyoming	33
10	Hawaii	28	38	Arizona	34
10	New Jersey	28	38	Delaware	34
14	Massachusetts	29	38	New York	34
14	Oregon	29	38	North Carolina	34
14	Washington	29	42	Arkansas	35
14	West Virginia	29	43	Florida	36
18	Alaska	30	43	Georgia	36
18	Maine	30	43	Tennessee	36
18	Virginia	30	46	Alabama	38
18	Wisconsin	30	46	South Carolina	38
22	California	31	48	New Mexico	39
22	Illinois	31	49	Louisiana	42
22	Pennsylvania	31	50	Mississippi	44
22	Vermont	31	N.R.	District of Columbia	60
26	Indiana	32			

N.R.=Not Ranked.

PROFILES

USA United States

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	73,901,733	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007

A map depicting the Child Poverty Rate can be found on page 59 in the Summary and Findings.

Find more data at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data NATIONAL	
Percent low-birthweight babies	−9	2000	7.6
		2006	8.3
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	+3	2000	6.9
		2006	6.7
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	+14	2000	22
		2006	19
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	+4	2000	67
		2006	64
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	+13	2000	48
		2006	42
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	+36	2000	11
		2007	7
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	+11	2000	9
		2007	8
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	−3	2000	32
		2007	33
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	−6	2000	17
		2007	18
Percent of children in single-parent families	−3	2000	31
		2007	32

OVERALL RANK **48**

Alabama AL

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

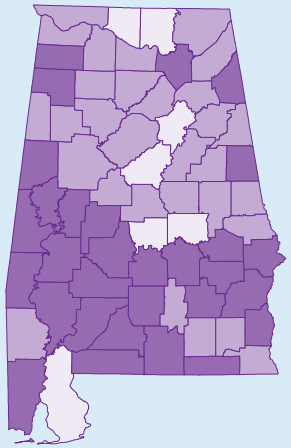
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	8	2000 9.7 2006 10.5	7.6 8.3	48
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000 9.4 2006 9.0	6.9 6.7	48
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	0	2000 27 2006 27	22 19	43
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1	2000 92 2006 93	67 64	47
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	11	2000 61 2006 54	48 42	39
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	23	2000 13 2007 10	11 7	46
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	8	2000 12 2007 11	9 8	44
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	6	2000 35 2007 37	32 33	43
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	14	2000 21 2007 24	17 18	45
Percent of children in single-parent families	9	2000 35 2007 38	31 32	46

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,123,537	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Alabama at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/al

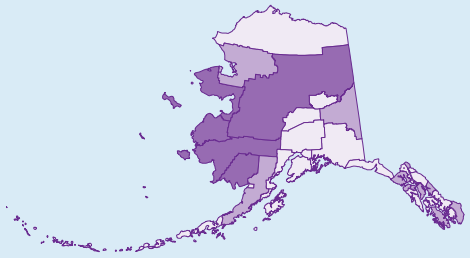
AK Alaska

OVERALL RANK **35**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	182,218	27%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Alaska at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ak

Key Indicators

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	7	2000	5.6	7.6	1
		2006	6.0	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1	2000	6.8	6.9	26
		2006	6.9	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	3	2000	32	22	50
		2006	33	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	36	2000	142	67	44
		2006	91	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	10	2000	49	48	30
		2006	44	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	13	2000	8	11	23
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	38	2000	8	9	44
		2007	11	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	20	2000	49	32	47
		2007	39	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	15	2000	13	17	4
		2007	11	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	30	31	18
		2007	30	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **40**

Arizona AZ

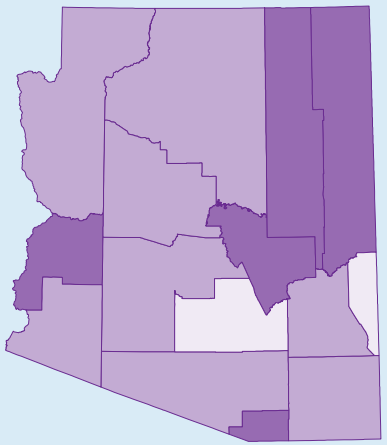
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	1	2000	7.0	7.6	[15]
		2006	7.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	6.7	6.9	[22]
		2006	6.4	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	15	2000	26	22	[34]
		2006	22	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	24	2000	79	67	[49]
		2006	98	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	68	48	[46]
		2006	62	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	44	2000	18	11	[46]
		2007	10	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	15	2000	13	9	[44]
		2007	11	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	6	2000	31	32	[26]
		2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	13	2000	23	17	[37]
		2007	20	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	3	2000	33	31	[38]
		2007	34	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,669,866	26%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Arizona at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/az

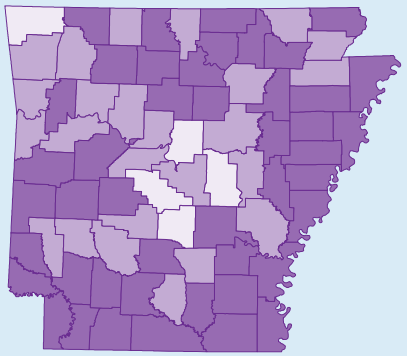
AR Arkansas

OVERALL RANK **47**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	700,537	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Arkansas at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ar

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	7	2000 8.6 2006 9.2	7.6 8.3	41
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1	2000 8.4 2006 8.5	6.9 6.7	46
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	15	2000 33 2006 28	22 19	44
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	4	2000 94 2006 98	67 64	49
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	6	2000 66 2006 62	48 42	46
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	42	2000 12 2007 7	11 7	23
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	8	2000 12 2007 11	9 8	44
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	18	2000 33 2007 39	32 33	47
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	4	2000 25 2007 26	17 18	48
Percent of children in single-parent families	3	2000 34 2007 35	31 32	42

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **20**

California CA

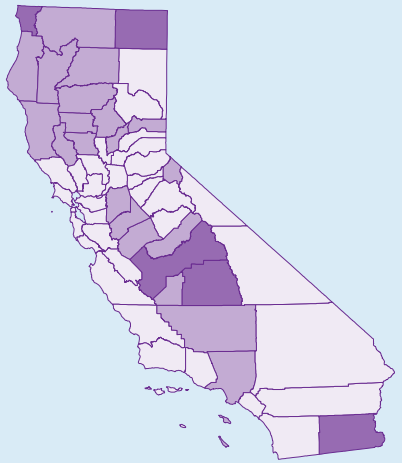
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	10	2000	6.2	7.6	[6]
		2006	6.8	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	7	2000	5.4	6.9	[3]
		2006	5.0	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	15	2000	20	22	[15]
		2006	17	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	13	2000	53	67	[16]
		2006	60	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	15	2000	47	48	[23]
		2006	40	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	30	2000	10	11	[23]
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	8	9	[23]
		2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	0	2000	35	32	[38]
		2007	35	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	15	2000	20	17	[25]
		2007	17	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	3	2000	30	31	[22]
		2007	31	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	9,383,924	26%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for California at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ca

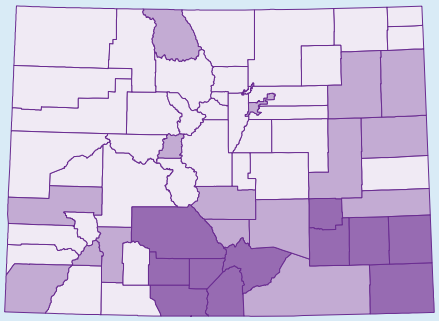
CO Colorado

OVERALL RANK **22**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,192,679	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007

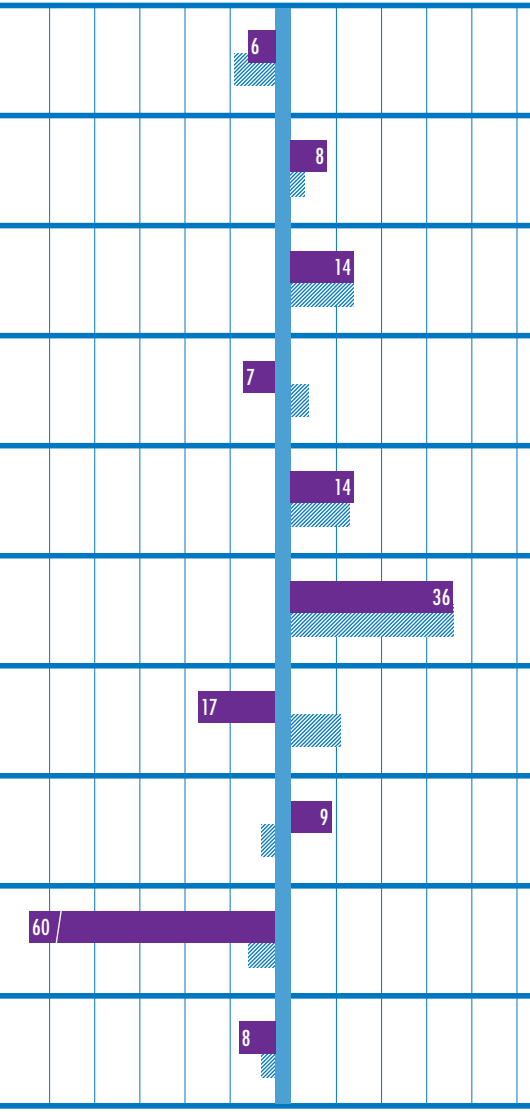


27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Colorado at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/co

Percent Change Over Time

Key Indicators	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.4	7.6	36
	2006	8.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.2	6.9	13
	2006	5.7	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	22	22	20
	2006	19	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	60	67	22
	2006	64	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	51	48	30
	2006	44	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	11	11	23
	2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	6	9	16
	2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	34	32	14
	2007	31	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	10	17	22
	2007	16	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	26	31	10
	2007	28	32	



Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **4**

Connecticut CT

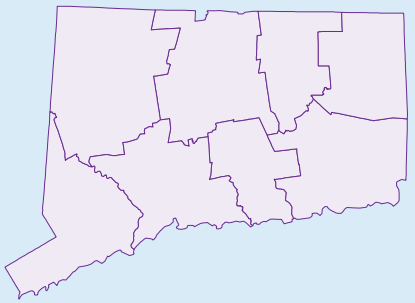
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	9	2000	7.4	7.6	21
		2006	8.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	6	2000	6.6	6.9	19
		2006	6.2	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	40	2000	15	22	1
		2006	9	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2	2000	47	67	5
		2006	48	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	23	2000	31	48	4
		2006	24	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	64	2000	11	11	3
		2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	25	2000	8	9	7
		2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	12	2000	26	32	12
		2007	29	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	0	2000	11	17	4
		2007	11	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	4	2000	27	31	10
		2007	28	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	820,216	23%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Connecticut at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ct

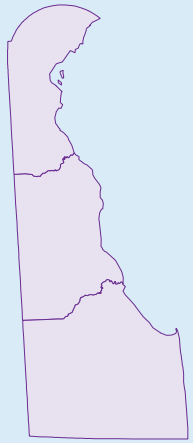
DE Delaware

OVERALL RANK **29**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	205,646	24%

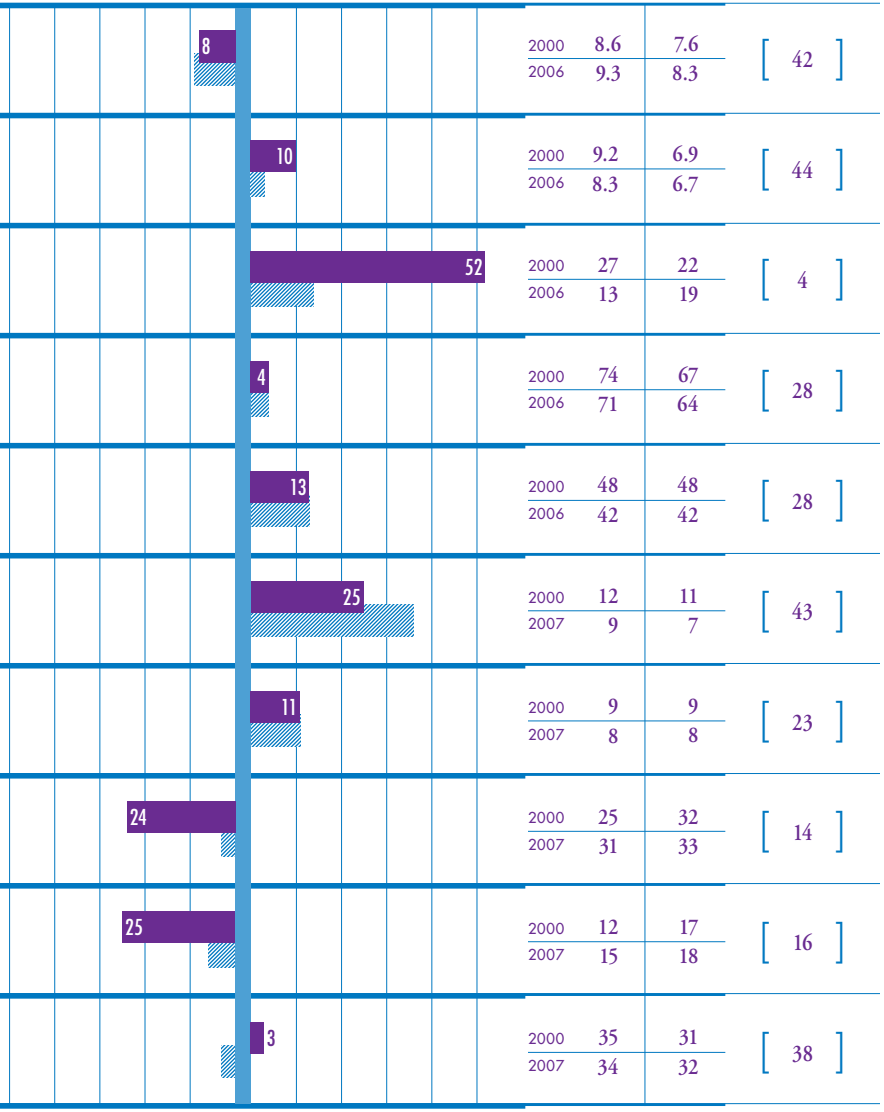
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Delaware at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/de

Percent Change Over Time



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.6	7.6	42
	2006	9.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	9.2	6.9	44
	2006	8.3	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	27	22	4
	2006	13	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	74	67	28
	2006	71	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	48	48	28
	2006	42	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	12	11	43
	2007	9	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	9	9	23
	2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	25	32	14
	2007	31	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	12	17	16
	2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	35	31	38
	2007	34	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

District of Columbia DC

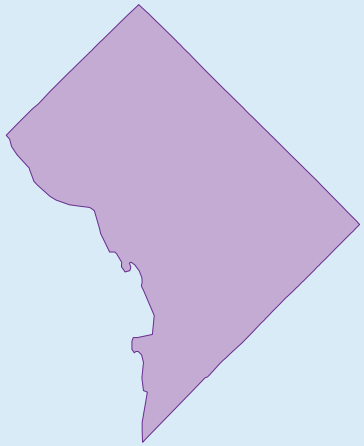
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	3	2000	11.9	7.6	N.R.
		2006	11.5	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	6	2000	12.0	6.9	N.R.
		2006	11.3	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	0	2000	31	22	N.R.
		2006	31	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	22	2000	108	67	N.R.
		2006	84	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	53	48	N.R.
		2006	48	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	38	2000	13	11	N.R.
		2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	8	2000	12	9	N.R.
		2007	11	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2	2000	44	32	N.R.
		2007	43	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	23	2000	30	17	N.R.
		2007	23	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	8	2000	65	31	N.R.
		2007	60	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.* *N.R.= Not Ranked*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	113,720	19%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more data for the District of Columbia at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/dc

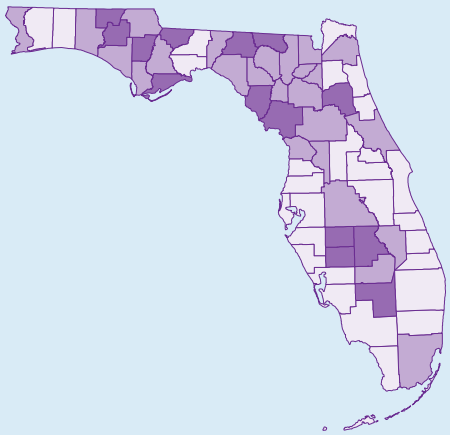
FL Florida

OVERALL RANK **36**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	4,043,560	22%

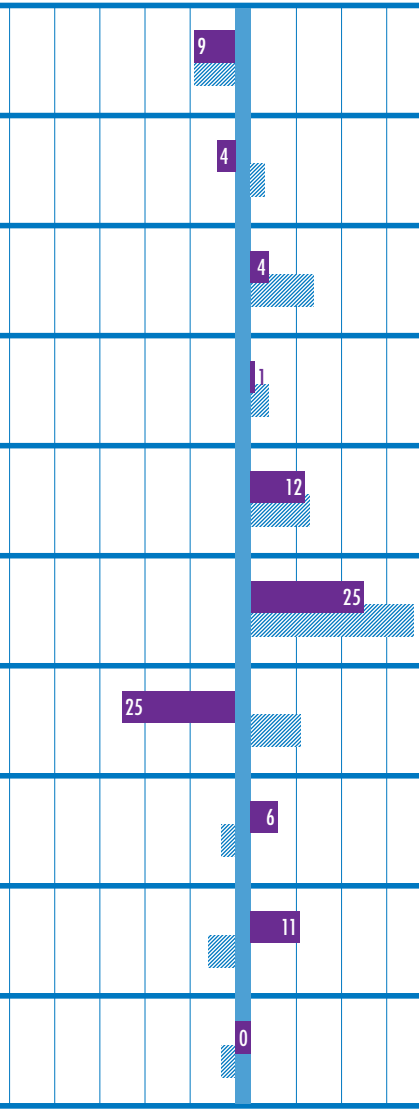
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Florida at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/fl

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.0	7.6	34
	2006	8.7	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	7.0	6.9	32
	2006	7.3	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	24	22	39
	2006	23	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	73	67	31
	2006	72	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	51	48	33
	2006	45	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	12	11	43
	2007	9	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	8	9	40
	2007	10	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	34	32	20
	2007	32	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	19	17	25
	2007	17	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	36	31	43
	2007	36	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **42**

Georgia GA

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE ZERO BETTER

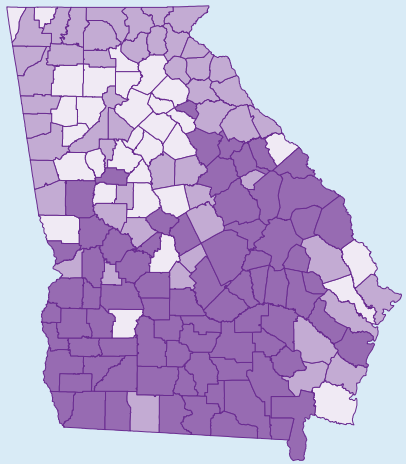
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	12	2000 2006	8.6 9.6	7.6 8.3	44
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	5	2000 2006	8.5 8.1	6.9 6.7	42
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	16	2000 2006	25 21	22 19	26
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	7	2000 2006	76 71	67 64	28
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	14	2000 2006	63 54	48 42	39
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	38	2000 2007	16 10	11 7	46
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	21	2000 2007	14 11	9 8	44
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	3	2000 2007	32 33	32 33	26
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	11	2000 2007	18 20	17 18	37
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000 2007	36 36	31 32	43

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,531,609	27%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Georgia at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ga

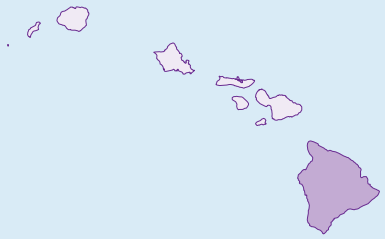
HI Hawaii

OVERALL RANK **18**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	285,694	22%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Hawaii at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/hi

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	8	2000 2006	7.5 8.1	7.6 8.3	21
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	31	2000 2006	8.1 5.6	6.9 6.7	10
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	40	2000 2006	15 21	22 19	26
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	39	2000 2006	41 57	67 64	13
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	11	2000 2006	46 41	48 42	27
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	20	2000 2007	5 4	11 7	3
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	10	2000 2007	10 9	9 8	31
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	22	2000 2007	41 32	32 33	20
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	23	2000 2007	13 10	17 18	2
Percent of children in single-parent families	17	2000 2007	24 28	31 32	10

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **26**

Idaho ID

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE ZERO BETTER

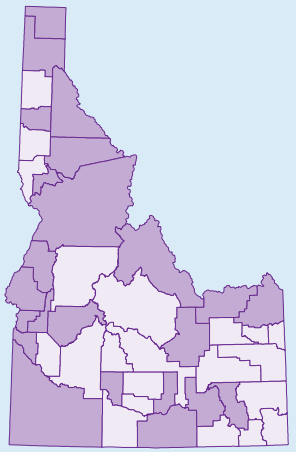
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data			National Rank
			STATE	NATIONAL	
Percent low-birthweight babies	3	2000	6.7	7.6	[8]
		2006	6.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	9	2000	7.5	6.9	[25]
		2006	6.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	32	2000	22	22	[45]
		2006	29	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	6	2000	63	67	[25]
		2006	67	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	43	48	[21]
		2006	39	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	20	2000	10	11	[36]
		2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	27	2000	11	9	[23]
		2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	7	2000	30	32	[20]
		2007	32	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	14	2000	14	17	[22]
		2007	16	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	22	31	[2]
		2007	22	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	407,712	27%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Idaho at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/id

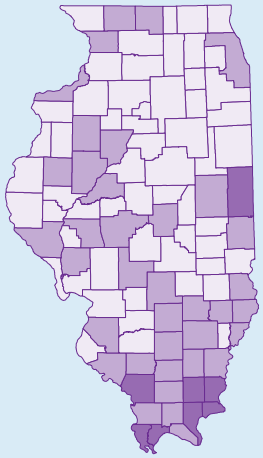
IL Illinois

OVERALL RANK **24**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	3,199,159	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Illinois at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/il

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	9	2000	7.9	7.6	32
		2006	8.6	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	15	2000	8.5	6.9	31
		2006	7.2	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	20	2000	20	22	9
		2006	16	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	12	2000	68	67	16
		2006	60	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	19	2000	48	48	21
		2006	39	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	33	2000	9	11	19
		2007	6	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	11	2000	9	9	23
		2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	7	2000	29	32	14
		2007	31	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	13	2000	15	17	25
		2007	17	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	31	31	22
		2007	31	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **31**

Indiana IN

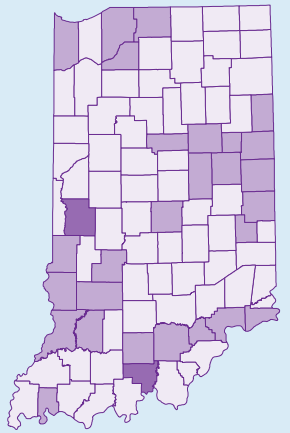
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	11	2000 7.4 / 2006 8.2	7.6 / 8.3	24
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000 7.8 / 2006 8.0	6.9 / 6.7	40
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	4	2000 25 / 2006 24	22 / 19	41
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	9	2000 76 / 2006 69	67 / 64	27
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	10	2000 49 / 2006 44	48 / 42	30
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	46	2000 13 / 2007 7	11 / 7	23
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	20	2000 10 / 2007 8	9 / 8	23
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	19	2000 27 / 2007 32	32 / 33	20
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	21	2000 14 / 2007 17	17 / 18	25
Percent of children in single-parent families	10	2000 29 / 2007 32	31 / 32	26

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,586,518	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Indiana at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/in

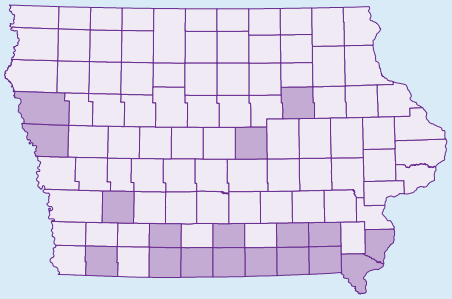
IA Iowa

OVERALL RANK **6**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	711,403	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Iowa at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ia

Key Indicators

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	13	2000 6.1 2006 6.9	2000 7.6 2006 8.3	8
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	22	2000 6.5 2006 5.1	2000 6.9 2006 6.7	4
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	27	2000 22 2006 16	2000 22 2006 19	9
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	25	2000 77 2006 58	2000 67 2006 64	14
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	3	2000 34 2006 33	2000 48 2006 42	13
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	20	2000 5 2007 4	2000 11 2007 7	3
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000 6 2007 6	2000 9 2007 8	7
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	17	2000 23 2007 27	2000 32 2007 33	4
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	8	2000 13 2007 14	2000 17 2007 18	14
Percent of children in single-parent families	8	2000 25 2007 27	2000 31 2007 32	7

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **13**

Kansas KS

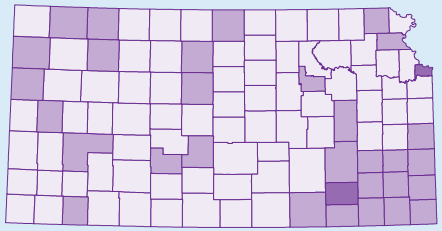
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	4	2000	6.9	7.6	[17]
		2006	7.2	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	6.8	6.9	[29]
		2006	7.1	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	16	2000	25	22	[26]
		2006	21	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	19	2000	78	67	[21]
		2006	63	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	46	48	[28]
		2006	42	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	60	2000	10	11	[3]
		2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	6	9	[7]
		2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	23	2000	22	32	[4]
		2007	27	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	25	2000	12	17	[16]
		2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	27	31	[7]
		2007	27	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	696,082	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Kansas at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ks

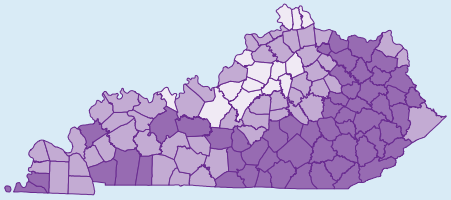
KY Kentucky

OVERALL RANK **41**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,003,973	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Kentucky at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ky

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Trend Data

Key Indicators	Year	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.2	7.6	[39]
	2006	9.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	7.2	6.9	[36]
	2006	7.5	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	23	22	[26]
	2006	21	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	82	67	[32]
	2006	75	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	55	48	[42]
	2006	55	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	10	11	[36]
	2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	12	9	[31]
	2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	34	32	[44]
	2007	38	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	22	17	[45]
	2007	24	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	30	31	[31]
	2007	33	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **49**

Louisiana LA

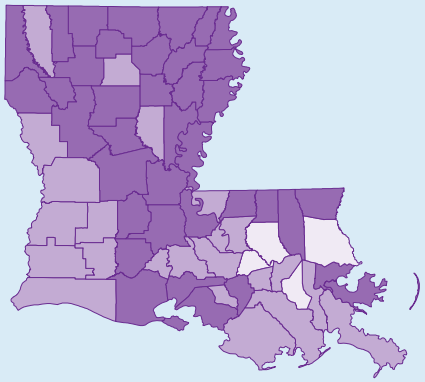
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	11	2000 10.3 / 2006 11.4	2000 7.6 / 2006 8.3	49
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	10	2000 9.0 / 2006 9.9	2000 6.9 / 2006 6.7	49
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	19	2000 32 / 2006 26	2000 22 / 2006 19	42
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	5	2000 85 / 2006 89	2000 67 / 2006 64	43
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	13	2000 62 / 2006 54	2000 48 / 2006 42	39
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	9	2000 11 / 2007 10	2000 11 / 2007 7	46
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	20	2000 15 / 2007 12	2000 9 / 2007 8	49
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	3	2000 39 / 2007 40	2000 32 / 2007 33	49
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	0	2000 27 / 2007 27	2000 17 / 2007 18	49
Percent of children in single-parent families	5	2000 40 / 2007 42	2000 31 / 2007 32	49

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,079,560	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Louisiana at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/la

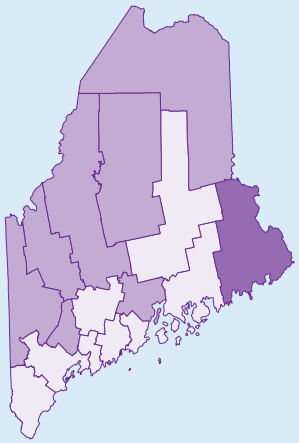
ME Maine

OVERALL RANK **12**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	279,467	21%

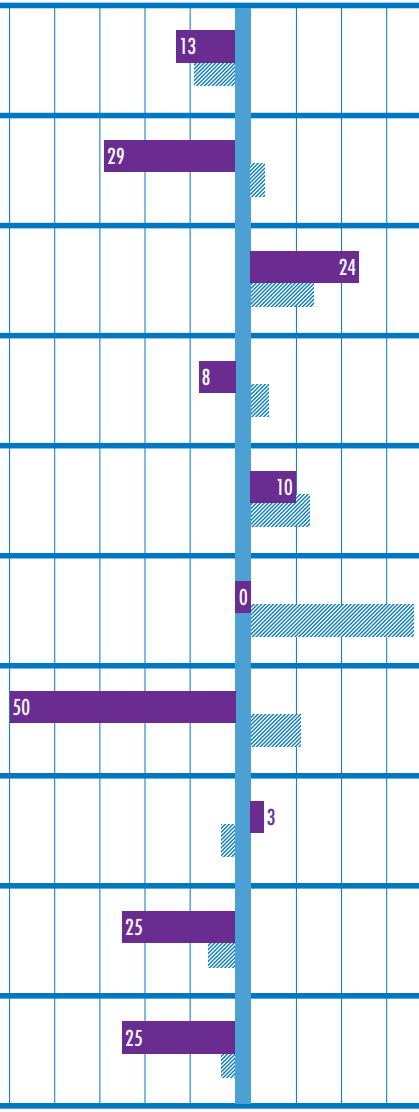
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Maine at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/me

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.0	7.6	[6]
	2006	6.8	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	4.9	6.9	[21]
	2006	6.3	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	21	22	[9]
	2006	16	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	63	67	[26]
	2006	68	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	29	48	[6]
	2006	26	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	5	11	[11]
	2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	4	9	[7]
	2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	34	32	[26]
	2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	12	17	[16]
	2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	24	31	[18]
	2007	30	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **25**

Maryland MD

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE ZERO BETTER

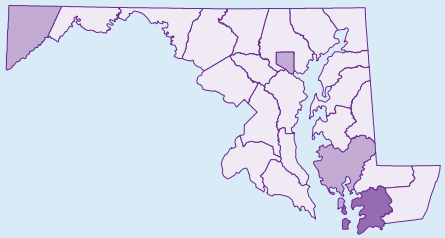
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data				National Rank
			STATE	NATIONAL		
Percent low-birthweight babies	9	2000	8.6	7.6	[43]	
		2006	9.4	8.3		
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	7.6	6.9	[39]	
		2006	7.9	6.7		
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	14	2000	21	22	[16]	
		2006	18	19		
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	10	2000	71	67	[22]	
		2006	64	64		
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	17	2000	41	48	[16]	
		2006	34	42		
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	36	2000	11	11	[23]	
		2007	7	7		
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	11	2000	9	9	[23]	
		2007	8	8		
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	0	2000	28	32	[7]	
		2007	28	33		
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	23	2000	13	17	[2]	
		2007	10	18		
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	33	31	[31]	
		2007	33	32		

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,358,797	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Maryland at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/md

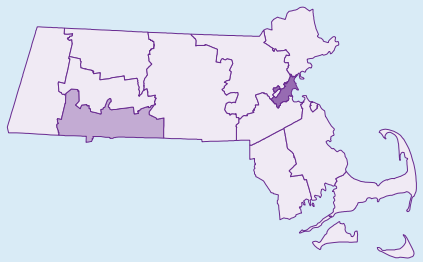
MA Massachusetts

OVERALL RANK **5**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,432,856	22%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Massachusetts at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ma

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	11	2000	7.1	7.6	19
		2006	7.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	4.6	6.9	2
		2006	4.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	27	2000	15	22	2
		2006	11	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	13	2000	40	67	2
		2006	35	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	19	2000	26	48	2
		2006	21	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	38	2000	8	11	11
		2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	6	9	7
		2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	3	2000	31	32	20
		2007	32	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	7	2000	14	17	11
		2007	13	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	29	31	14
		2007	29	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **27**

Michigan MI

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

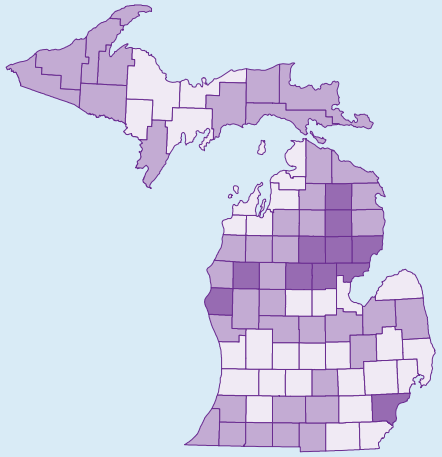
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	6	2000 7.9 2006 8.4	7.6 8.3	29
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	10	2000 8.2 2006 7.4	6.9 6.7	33
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	18	2000 22 2006 18	22 19	16
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	14	2000 64 2006 55	67 64	11
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	15	2000 40 2006 34	48 42	16
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	50	2000 10 2007 5	11 7	11
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	22	2000 9 2007 7	9 8	16
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	16	2000 31 2007 36	32 33	41
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	36	2000 14 2007 19	17 18	34
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000 32 2007 32	31 32	26

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,446,856	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Michigan at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/mi

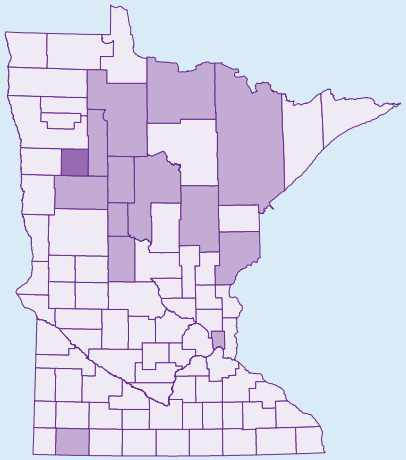
MN Minnesota

OVERALL RANK **2**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,260,282	24%

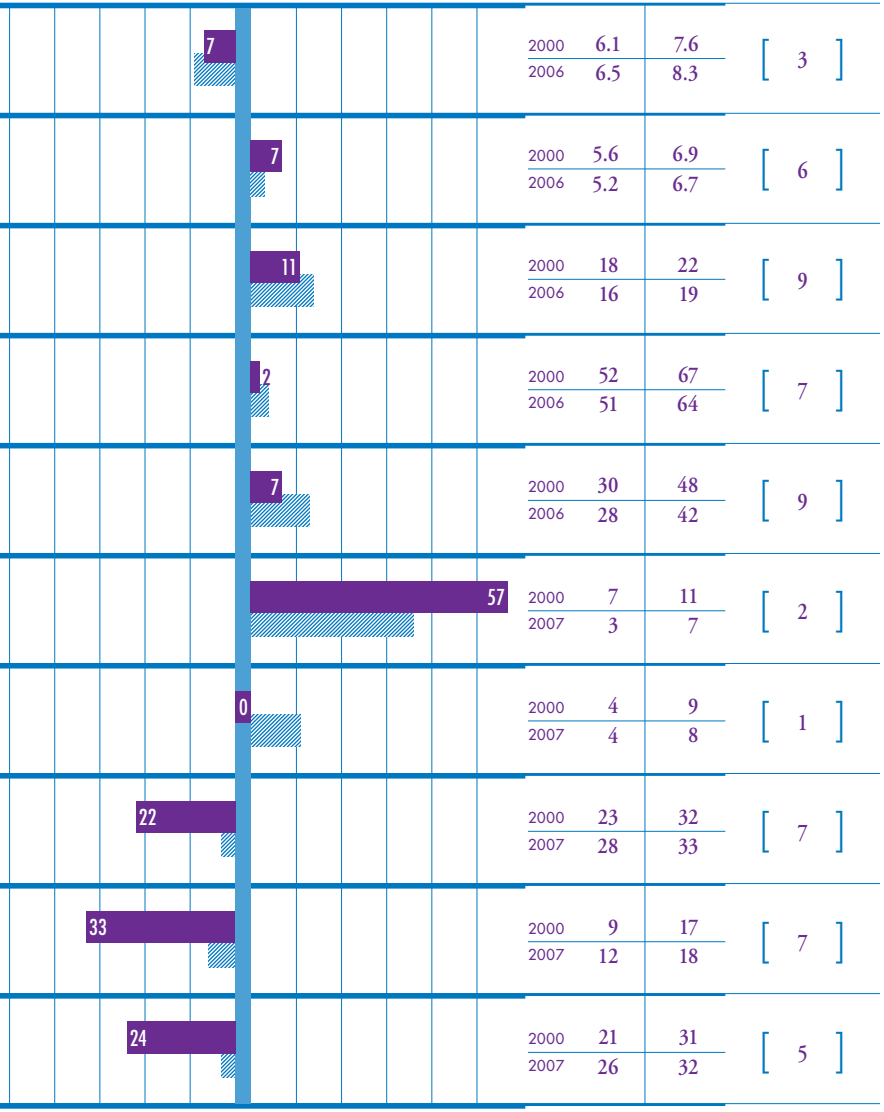
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Minnesota at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/mn

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.1	7.6	[3]
	2006	6.5	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	5.6	6.9	[6]
	2006	5.2	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	18	22	[9]
	2006	16	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	52	67	[7]
	2006	51	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	30	48	[9]
	2006	28	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	7	11	[2]
	2007	3	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	4	9	[1]
	2007	4	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	23	32	[7]
	2007	28	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	9	17	[7]
	2007	12	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	21	31	[5]
	2007	26	32	

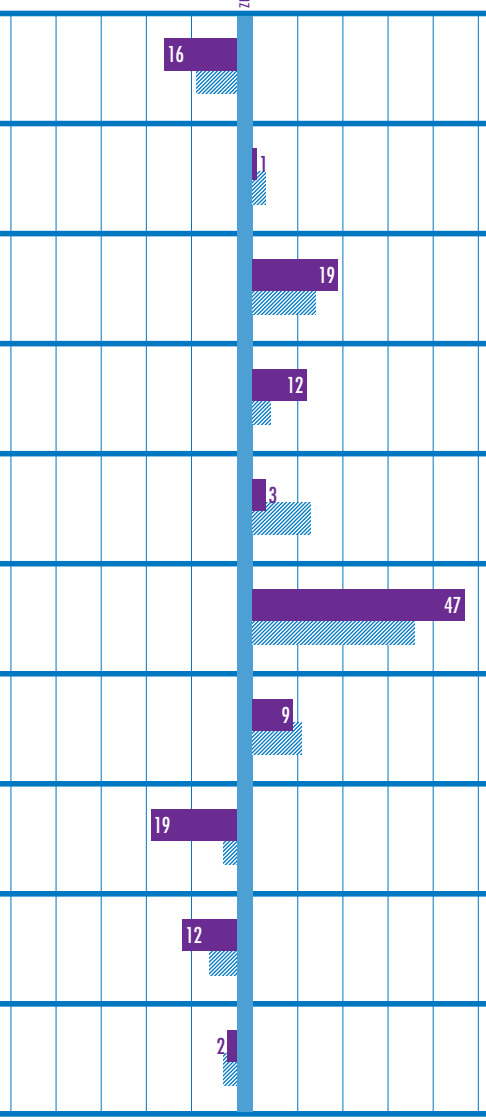
Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **50**

Mississippi MS

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time



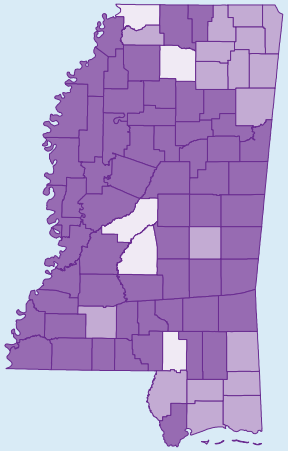
Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	10.7	7.6	[50]
	2006	12.4	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	10.7	6.9	[50]
	2006	10.6	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	37	22	[47]
	2006	30	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	103	67	[44]
	2006	91	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	70	48	[50]
	2006	68	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	15	11	[36]
	2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	11	9	[40]
	2007	10	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	36	32	[50]
	2007	43	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	26	17	[50]
	2007	29	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	43	31	[50]
	2007	44	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	768,704	26%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Mississippi at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ms

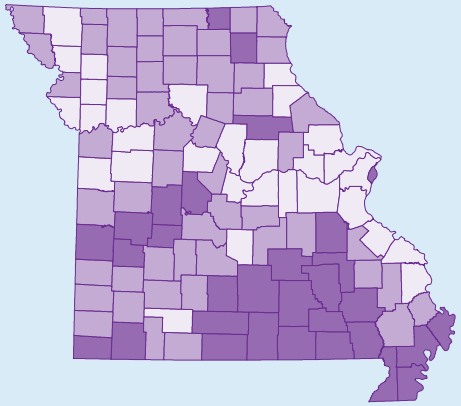
MO Missouri

OVERALL RANK **33**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,424,830	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Missouri at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/mo

Key Indicators

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	7	2000 7.6 2006 8.1	2000 7.6 2006 8.3	21
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000 7.2 2006 7.4	2000 6.9 2006 6.7	33
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	22	2000 27 2006 21	2000 22 2006 19	26
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	3	2000 90 2006 87	2000 67 2006 64	41
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	6	2000 49 2006 46	2000 48 2006 42	35
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	36	2000 11 2007 7	2000 11 2007 7	23
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000 9 2007 9	2000 9 2007 8	31
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	0	2000 31 2007 31	2000 32 2007 33	14
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	13	2000 16 2007 18	2000 17 2007 18	32
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000 32 2007 32	2000 31 2007 32	26

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **30**

Montana MT

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE ZERO BETTER

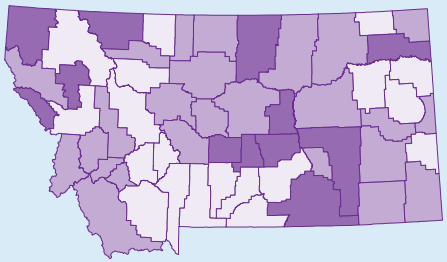
Key Indicators	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.2	7.6	[18]
	2006	7.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.1	6.9	[14]
	2006	5.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	33	22	[47]
	2006	30	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	98	67	[37]
	2006	84	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	37	48	[23]
	2006	40	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	7	11	[23]
	2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	7	9	[40]
	2007	10	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	30	32	[33]
	2007	34	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	17	17	[32]
	2007	18	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	25	31	[5]
	2007	26	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	219,498	23%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Montana at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/mt

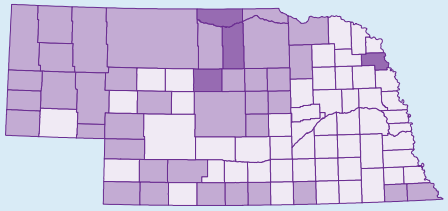
NE Nebraska

OVERALL RANK **11**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	446,145	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Nebraska at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ne

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	4	2000	6.8	7.6	15
		2006	7.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	23	2000	7.3	6.9	10
		2006	5.6	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	14	2000	22	22	20
		2006	19	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	14	2000	73	67	35
		2006	83	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	13	2000	38	48	13
		2006	33	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	33	2000	6	11	3
		2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	5	9	3
		2007	5	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	4	2000	25	32	2
		2007	26	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	50	2000	10	17	16
		2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	13	2000	24	31	7
		2007	27	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **39**

Nevada NV

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE ZERO BETTER

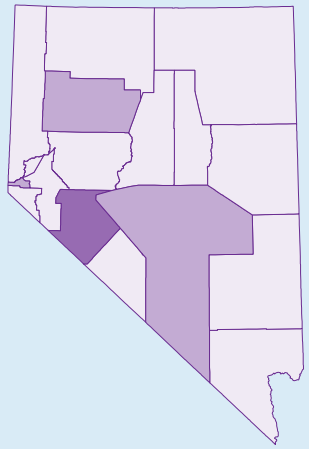
Key Indicators	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	7.2	7.6	[25]
	2006	8.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.5	6.9	[22]
	2006	6.4	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	23	22	[26]
	2006	21	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	75	67	[47]
	2006	93	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	63	48	[44]
	2006	56	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	16	11	[50]
	2007	11	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	16	9	[50]
	2007	13	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	30	32	[20]
	2007	32	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	13	17	[16]
	2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	33	31	[31]
	2007	33	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	660,002	26%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Nevada at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nv

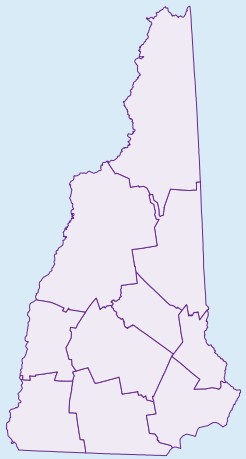
NH New Hampshire

OVERALL RANK **1**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	298,186	23%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for New Hampshire at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nh

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Trend Data

Key Indicators		STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.3	7.6	8
	2006	6.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	5.7	6.9	17
	2006	6.1	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	14	22	3
	2006	12	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	55	67	3
	2006	38	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	23	48	1
	2006	19	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	9	11	3
	2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	5	9	3
	2007	5	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	24	32	4
	2007	27	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	6	17	1
	2007	9	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	25	31	4
	2007	25	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **9**

New Jersey NJ

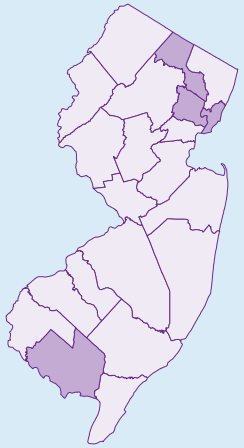
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	12	2000	7.7	7.6	[32]
		2006	8.6	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	13	2000	6.3	6.9	[7]
		2006	5.5	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	13	2000	15	22	[4]
		2006	13	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	4	2000	48	67	[6]
		2006	50	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	22	2000	32	48	[5]
		2006	25	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	38	2000	8	11	[11]
		2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	7	9	[16]
		2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	8	2000	26	32	[7]
		2007	28	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	20	2000	10	17	[7]
		2007	12	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	12	2000	25	31	[10]
		2007	28	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,063,789	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for New Jersey at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nj

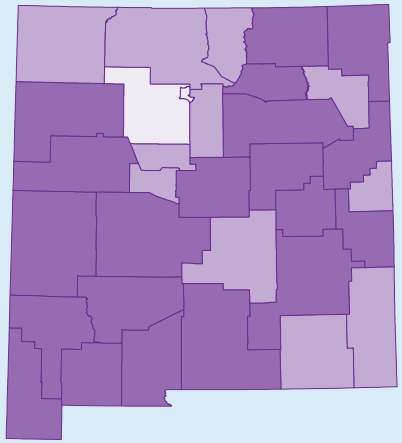
NM New Mexico

OVERALL RANK **43**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	500,276	25%

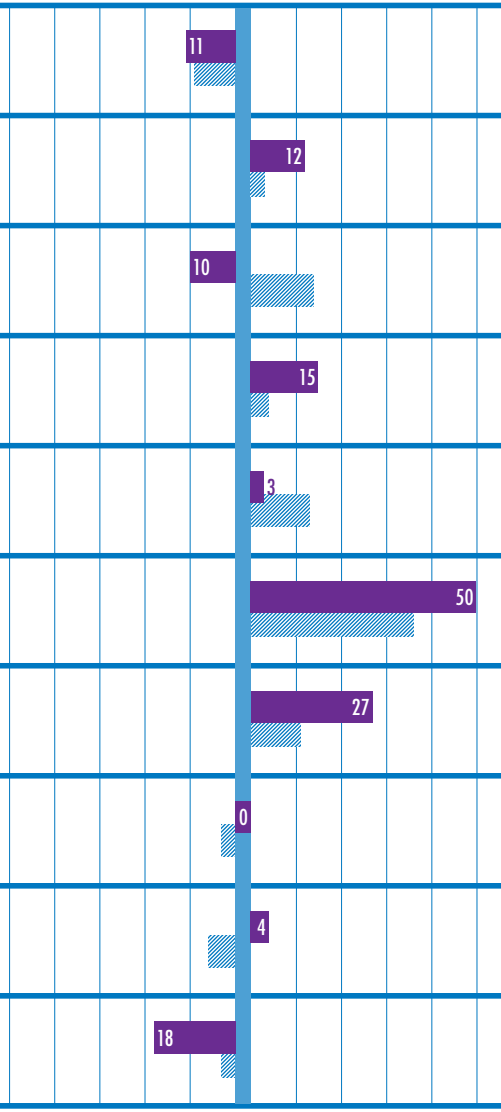
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for New Mexico at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nm

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.0	7.6	36
	2006	8.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.6	6.9	14
	2006	5.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	20	22	34
	2006	22	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	99	67	37
	2006	84	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	66	48	49
	2006	64	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	16	11	36
	2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	11	9	23
	2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	38	32	44
	2007	38	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	26	17	47
	2007	25	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	33	31	48
	2007	39	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **17**

New York NY

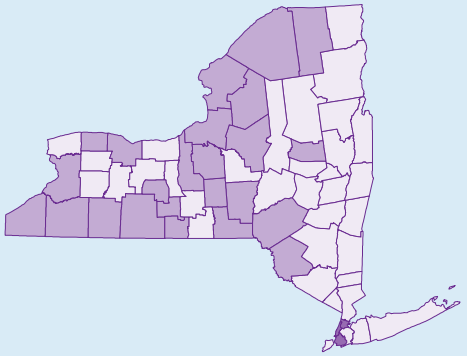
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	8	2000	7.7	7.6	[25]
		2006	8.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	13	2000	6.4	6.9	[10]
		2006	5.6	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	18	2000	17	22	[6]
		2006	14	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	9	2000	47	67	[4]
		2006	43	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	21	2000	33	48	[6]
		2006	26	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	44	2000	9	11	[11]
		2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	22	2000	9	9	[16]
		2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	6	2000	35	32	[26]
		2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	0	2000	19	17	[34]
		2007	19	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	0	2000	34	31	[38]
		2007	34	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	4,413,414	23%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for New York at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ny

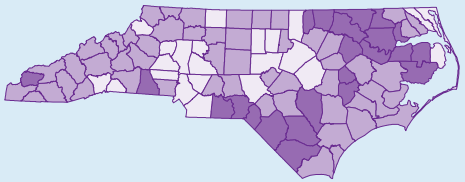
NC North Carolina

OVERALL RANK **37**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,217,680	24%

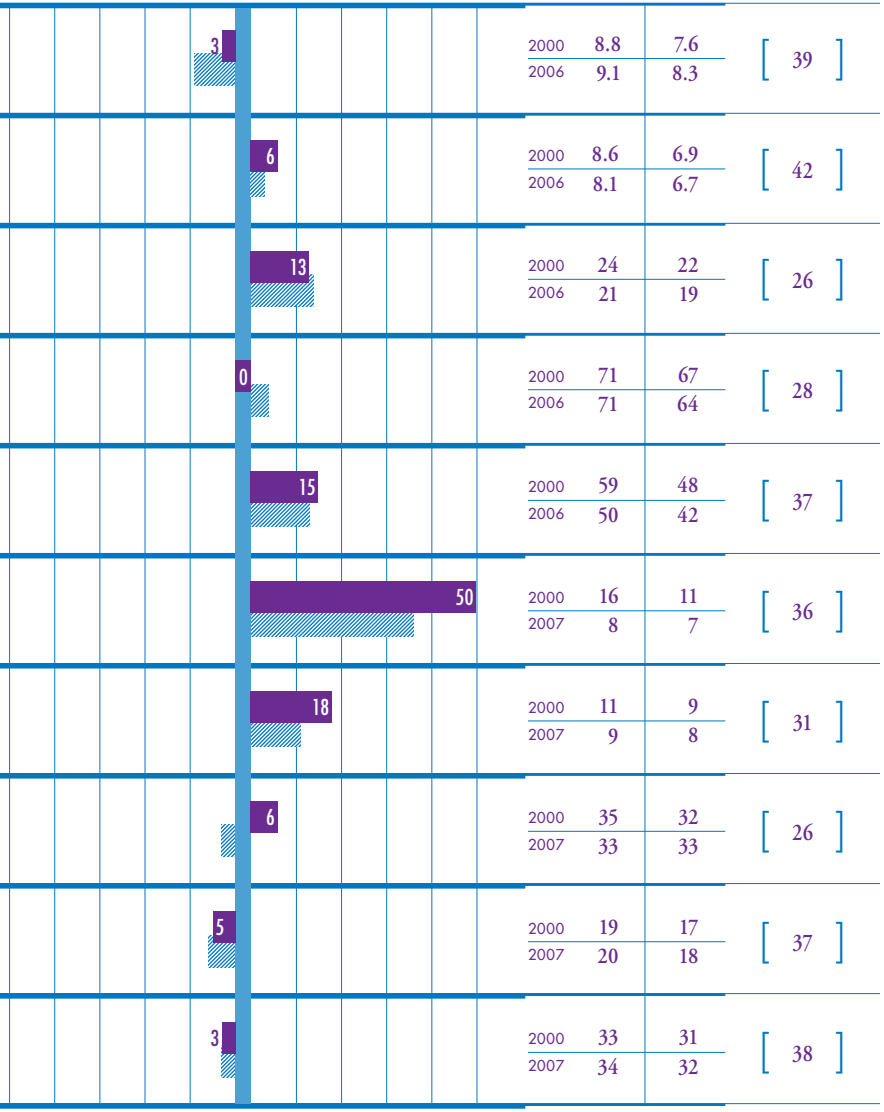
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for North Carolina at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nc

Key Indicators



Key Indicators	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	8.8	7.6	[39]
	2006	9.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	8.6	6.9	[42]
	2006	8.1	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	24	22	[26]
	2006	21	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	71	67	[28]
	2006	71	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	59	48	[37]
	2006	50	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	16	11	[36]
	2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	11	9	[31]
	2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	35	32	[26]
	2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	19	17	[37]
	2007	20	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	33	31	[38]
	2007	34	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **7**

North Dakota ND

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time

WORSE — ZERO — BETTER

Trend Data

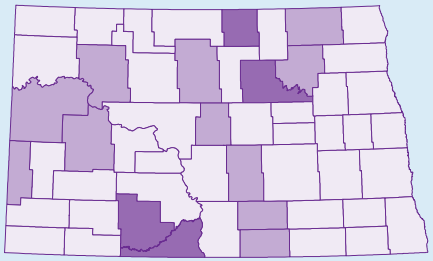
Key Indicators		STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.4	7.6	[5]
	2006	6.7	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	8.1	6.9	[14]
	2006	5.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	19	22	[39]
	2006	23	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	52	67	[41]
	2006	87	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	27	48	[8]
	2006	27	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	3	11	[1]
	2007	2	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	4	9	[1]
	2007	4	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	29	32	[7]
	2007	28	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	15	17	[11]
	2007	13	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	23	31	[3]
	2007	24	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	142,809	22%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for North Dakota at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/nd

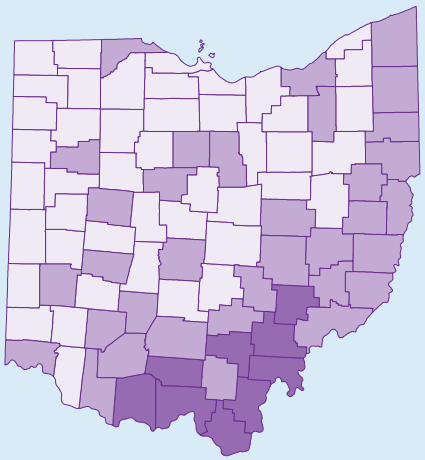
OH Ohio

OVERALL RANK **28**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,751,874	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Ohio at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/oh

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	11	2000	7.9	7.6	35
		2006	8.8	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000	7.6	6.9	38
		2006	7.8	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	13	2000	23	22	24
		2006	20	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	3	2000	58	67	12
		2006	56	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	13	2000	46	48	23
		2006	40	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	50	2000	10	11	11
		2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	14	2000	7	9	7
		2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	13	2000	30	32	33
		2007	34	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	19	2000	16	17	34
		2007	19	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	6	2000	31	31	31
		2007	33	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **44**

Oklahoma OK

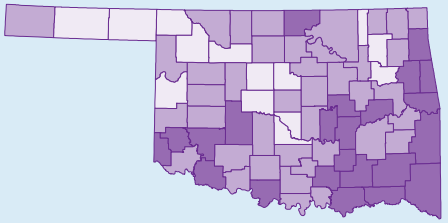
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	11	2000	7.5	7.6	[25]
		2006	8.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	6	2000	8.5	6.9	[40]
		2006	8.0	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	16	2000	25	22	[45]
		2006	29	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	10	2000	77	67	[40]
		2006	85	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	0	2000	60	48	[45]
		2006	60	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	43	2000	14	11	[36]
		2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	18	2000	11	9	[31]
		2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	6	2000	33	32	[38]
		2007	35	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	16	2000	19	17	[41]
		2007	22	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	10	2000	30	31	[31]
		2007	33	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	899,507	25%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Oklahoma at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ok

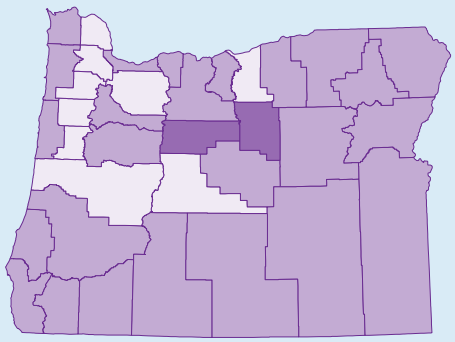
OR Oregon

OVERALL RANK **19**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	862,908	23%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Oregon at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/or

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	9	2000 5.6 2006 6.1	2000 7.6 2006 8.3	2
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2	2000 5.6 2006 5.5	2000 6.9 2006 6.7	7
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	5	2000 21 2006 20	2000 22 2006 19	24
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	23	2000 66 2006 51	2000 67 2006 64	7
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	16	2000 43 2006 36	2000 48 2006 42	20
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	36	2000 11 2007 7	2000 11 2007 7	23
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	10	2000 10 2007 9	2000 9 2007 8	31
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	3	2000 36 2007 35	2000 32 2007 33	38
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	6	2000 18 2007 17	2000 17 2007 18	25
Percent of children in single-parent families	9	2000 32 2007 29	2000 31 2007 32	14

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **23**

Pennsylvania PA

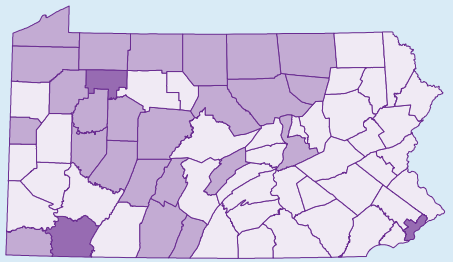
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	10	2000	7.7	7.6	[31]
		2006	8.5	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	7	2000	7.1	6.9	[37]
		2006	7.6	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	10	2000	20	22	[16]
		2006	18	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2	2000	60	67	[20]
		2006	61	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	34	48	[11]
		2006	31	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	14	2000	7	11	[19]
		2007	6	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	7	9	[16]
		2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	18	2000	28	32	[26]
		2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	7	2000	15	17	[22]
		2007	16	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	7	2000	29	31	[22]
		2007	31	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	2,786,719	22%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Pennsylvania at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/pa

RI Rhode Island

OVERALL RANK **15**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	233,115	22%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007

27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Rhode Island at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ri

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time	Trend Data: STATE	Trend Data: NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	−11	2000 7.2 2006 8.0	2000 7.6 2006 8.3	20
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000 6.3 2006 6.1	2000 6.9 2006 6.7	17
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	6	2000 17 2006 16	2000 22 2006 19	9
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	35	2000 52 2006 34	2000 67 2006 64	1
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	18	2000 34 2006 28	2000 48 2006 42	9
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	40	2000 10 2007 6	2000 11 2007 7	19
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	14	2000 7 2007 6	2000 9 2007 8	7
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	0	2000 34 2007 34	2000 32 2007 33	33
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	−6	2000 16 2007 17	2000 17 2007 18	25
Percent of children in single-parent families	−3	2000 32 2007 33	2000 31 2007 32	31

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **45**

South Carolina SC

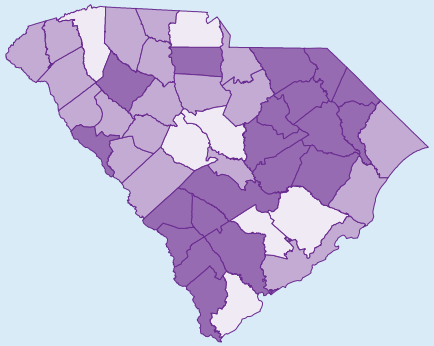
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	4	2000	9.7	7.6	[47]
		2006	10.1	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000	8.7	6.9	[45]
		2006	8.4	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	12	2000	25	22	[34]
		2006	22	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	13	2000	86	67	[32]
		2006	75	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	9	2000	58	48	[38]
		2006	53	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	36	2000	14	11	[43]
		2007	9	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	25	2000	12	9	[31]
		2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	10	2000	31	32	[33]
		2007	34	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	11	2000	19	17	[40]
		2007	21	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	9	2000	35	31	[46]
		2007	38	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,059,917	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for South Carolina at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/sc

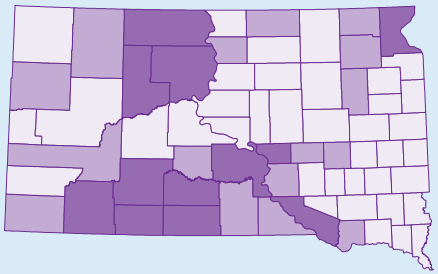
SD South Dakota

OVERALL RANK **21**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	196,890	25%

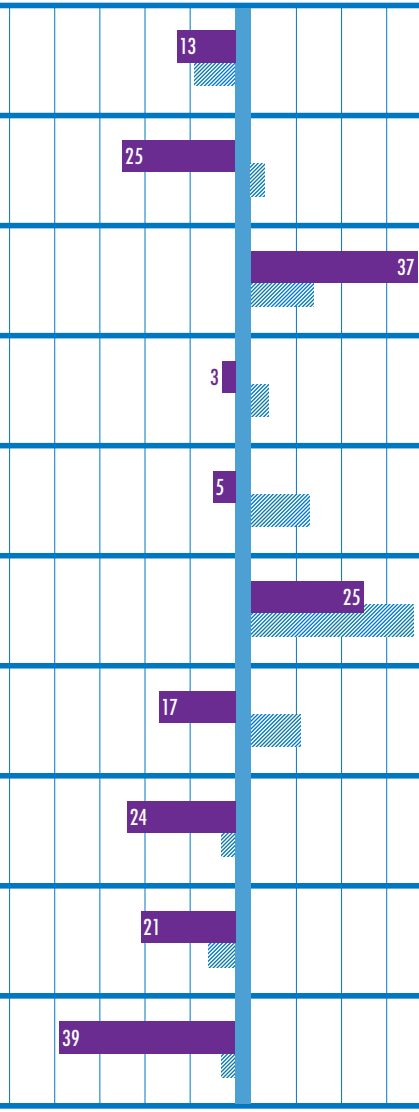
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for South Dakota at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/sd

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.2	7.6	[14]
	2006	7.0	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	5.5	6.9	[26]
	2006	6.9	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	35	22	[34]
	2006	22	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	78	67	[34]
	2006	80	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	38	48	[23]
	2006	40	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	8	11	[19]
	2007	6	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	6	9	[16]
	2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	21	32	[2]
	2007	26	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	14	17	[25]
	2007	17	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	23	31	[26]
	2007	32	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **46**

Tennessee TN

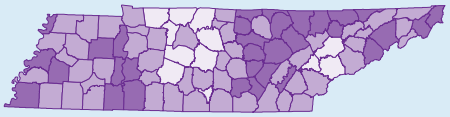
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	4	2000	9.2	7.6	[44]
		2006	9.6	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	9.1	6.9	[47]
		2006	8.7	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	21	2000	28	22	[34]
		2006	22	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1	2000	90	67	[44]
		2006	91	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	7	2000	59	48	[42]
		2006	55	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	36	2000	11	11	[23]
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	18	2000	11	9	[31]
		2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	13	2000	32	32	[41]
		2007	36	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	15	2000	20	17	[42]
		2007	23	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	9	2000	33	31	[43]
		2007	36	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,471,486	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Tennessee at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/tn

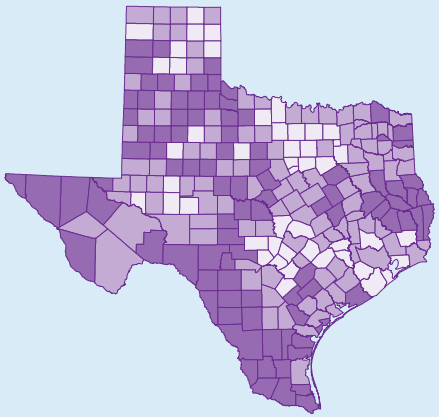
TX Texas

OVERALL RANK **34**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	6,623,366	28%

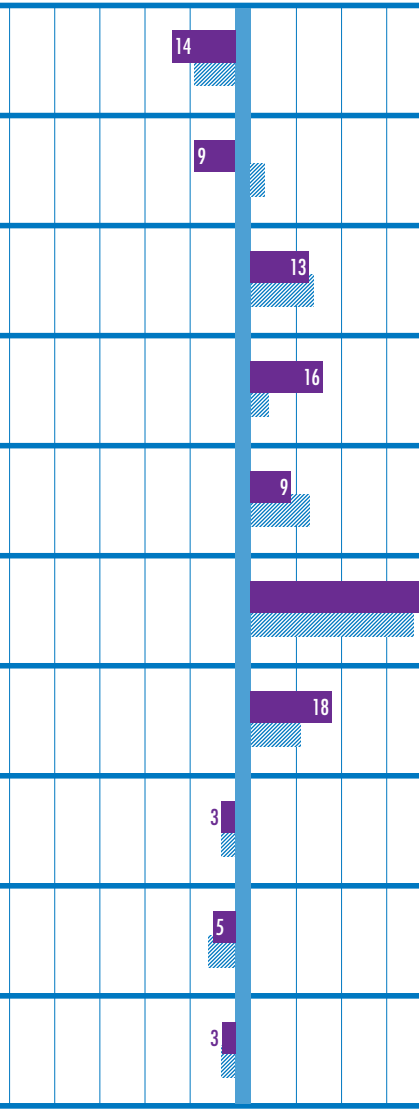
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Texas at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/tx

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	7.4	7.6	[29]
	2006	8.4	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	5.7	6.9	[19]
	2006	6.2	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	24	22	[26]
	2006	21	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	76	67	[22]
	2006	64	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	69	48	[48]
	2006	63	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	14	11	[36]
	2007	8	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	11	9	[31]
	2007	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	32	32	[26]
	2007	33	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	22	17	[42]
	2007	23	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	31	31	[26]
	2007	32	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **3**

Utah UT

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

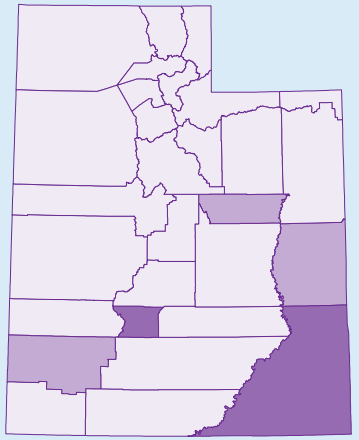
Key Indicators	Trend Data	STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.6	7.6	[8]
	2006	6.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	5.2	6.9	[4]
	2006	5.1	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	20	22	[20]
	2006	19	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	60	67	[9]
	2006	54	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	38	48	[16]
	2006	34	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	6	11	[11]
	2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	8	9	[7]
	2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	26	32	[1]
	2007	24	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	10	17	[4]
	2007	11	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	21	31	[1]
	2007	18	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	816,822	31%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Utah at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/ut

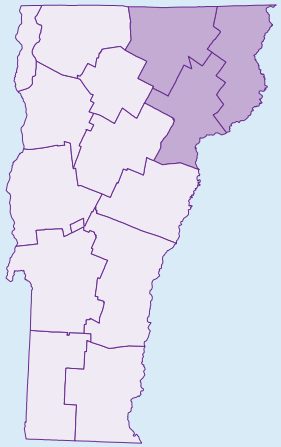
VT Vermont

OVERALL RANK **8**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	131,353	21%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Vermont at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/vt

Key Indicators

Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)

Trend Data

Key Indicators		STATE	NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.1	7.6	[8]
	2006	6.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.0	6.9	[7]
	2006	5.5	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	13	22	[16]
	2006	18	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	66	67	[9]
	2006	54	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	23	48	[2]
	2006	21	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	6	11	[3]
	2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	7	9	[3]
	2007	5	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	28	32	[14]
	2007	31	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	13	17	[7]
	2007	12	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	25	31	[22]
	2007	31	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **16**

Virginia VA

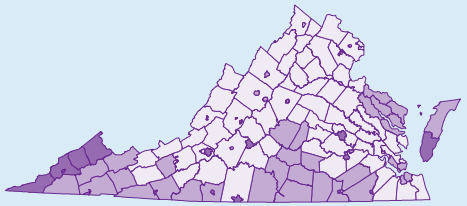
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	5	2000	7.9	7.6	[25]
		2006	8.3	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000	6.9	6.9	[29]
		2006	7.1	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	20	2000	20	22	[9]
		2006	16	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	10	2000	67	67	[16]
		2006	60	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	15	2000	41	48	[19]
		2006	35	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	44	2000	9	11	[11]
		2007	5	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	7	9	[16]
		2007	7	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	4	2000	27	32	[7]
		2007	28	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	0	2000	13	17	[11]
		2007	13	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	7	2000	28	31	[18]
		2007	30	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,826,179	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Virginia at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/va

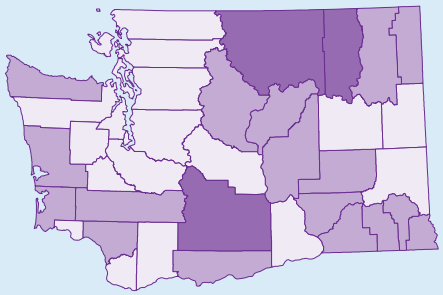
WA Washington

OVERALL RANK **14**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007 [1,536,368 | 24%]

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Washington at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/wa

Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	16	2000	5.6	7.6	[3]
		2006	6.5	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	10	2000	5.2	6.9	[1]
		2006	4.7	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	26	2000	19	22	[6]
		2006	14	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	0	2000	60	67	[16]
		2006	60	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	15	2000	39	48	[13]
		2006	33	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	22	2000	9	11	[23]
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	8	9	[23]
		2007	8	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	10	2000	31	32	[33]
		2007	34	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	6	2000	16	17	[16]
		2007	15	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	4	2000	28	31	[14]
		2007	29	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **38**

West Virginia WV

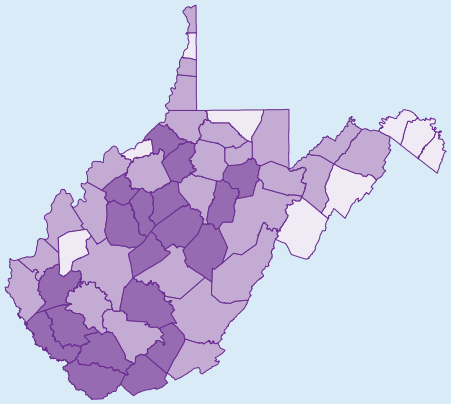
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	17	2000	8.3	7.6	[46]
		2006	9.7	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	3	2000	7.6	6.9	[33]
		2006	7.4	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	37	2000	30	22	[20]
		2006	19	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	5	2000	88	67	[37]
		2006	84	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	4	2000	47	48	[33]
		2006	45	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	13	2000	8	11	[23]
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	9	2000	11	9	[40]
		2007	10	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	5	2000	40	32	[44]
		2007	38	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	12	2000	26	17	[42]
		2007	23	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	3	2000	30	31	[14]
		2007	29	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	387,381	21%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for West Virginia at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/wv

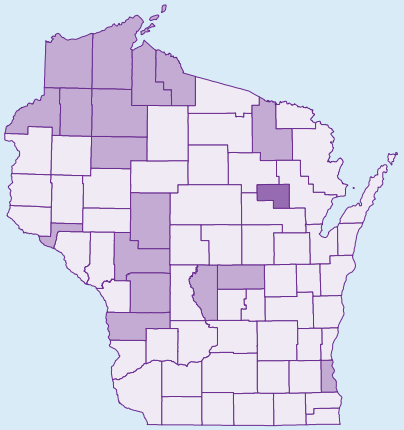
WI Wisconsin

OVERALL RANK **10**

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	1,321,279	24%

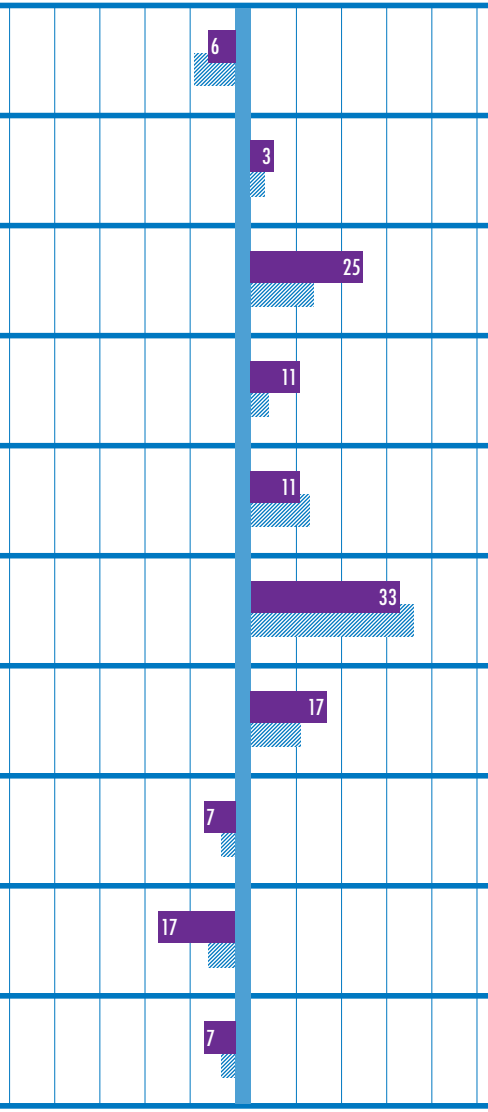
Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater | 18.1% to 27% | 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Wisconsin at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/wi

Key Indicators



Key Indicators		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	2000	6.5	7.6	8
	2006	6.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	6.6	6.9	22
	2006	6.4	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2000	20	22	8
	2006	15	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2000	66	67	15
	2006	59	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2000	35	48	11
	2006	31	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	2000	6	11	3
	2007	4	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2000	6	9	3
	2007	5	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2000	27	32	12
	2007	29	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	2000	12	17	14
	2007	14	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	2000	28	31	18
	2007	30	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

OVERALL RANK **32**

Wyoming WY

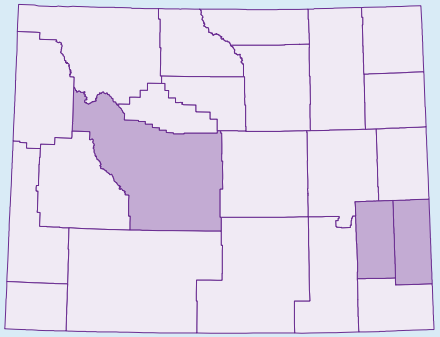
Key Indicators	Percent Change Over Time (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data STATE	Trend Data NATIONAL	National Rank
Percent low-birthweight babies	7	2000	8.3	7.6	[36]
		2006	8.9	8.3	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4	2000	6.7	6.9	[28]
		2006	7.0	6.7	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	15	2000	27	22	[49]
		2006	31	19	
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2	2000	81	67	[35]
		2006	83	64	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	12	2000	42	48	[36]
		2006	47	42	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	30	2000	10	11	[23]
		2007	7	7	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	0	2000	6	9	[7]
		2007	6	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	6	2000	33	32	[14]
		2007	31	33	
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	20	2000	15	17	[7]
		2007	12	18	
Percent of children in single-parent families	32	2000	25	31	[31]
		2007	33	32	

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Total children under age 18 in 2007	125,365	24%

Child Poverty Rate, 2007



27.1% or greater 18.1% to 27% 18% or lower

Find more state and community-level data for Wyoming at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/wy

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

This Appendix provides the rate for each of the 10 KIDS COUNT key indicators used to rank states for each year since 2000. Data are available for 2007 for some measures, but only through 2006 for others. The raw data behind the most recent rate are also provided. In addition, this table provides the state's rank by indicator for each year. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) are estimates and therefore rounded to the nearest whole number for rates and 1,000 for raw data.

Key Indicators		USA								AL								AK							
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.	9.7	9.6	9.9	10.0	10.4	10.7	10.5	N.A.	5.6	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	47	47	46	47	48	48	48	N.A.	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births								6,624 births								654 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.	9.4	9.4	9.1	8.7	8.7	9.4	9.0	N.A.	6.8	8.1	5.5	7.0	6.7	5.9	6.9	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	49	47	45	45	45	47	48	N.A.	24	39	7	28	25	13	26	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths								571 deaths								76 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.	27	30	29	27	28	26	27	N.A.	32	34	29	38	35	24	33	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	39	44	44	42	41	42	43	N.A.	45	49	44	50	49	34	50	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths								228 deaths								45 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.	92	93	100	89	99	88	93	N.A.	142	97	76	105	111	83	91	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	45	48	46	44	47	44	47	N.A.	50	49	34	50	50	36	44	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths								304 deaths								48 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.	61	56	55	52	52	50	54	N.A.	49	41	40	39	39	37	44	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	42	39	42	40	40	40	39	N.A.	32	24	25	24	25	23	30	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births								8,537 births								1,101 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7	13	12	15	10	7	9	9	10	8	10	6	10	5	9	7	7
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	40	41	49	39	20	36	41	46	12	30	5	39	7	36	27	23
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens								26,000 teens								3,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	12	12	13	11	8	10	11	11	8	12	10	13	12	10	8	11
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	43	44	49	39	18	40	46	44	20	44	35	48	46	40	27	44
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens								29,000 teens								5,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33	35	35	37	35	36	36	36	37	49	41	41	40	40	41	42	39
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	40	42	44	36	36	36	40	43	50	50	50	48	49	47	48	47
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children								415,000 children								71,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	21	23	24	24	23	25	23	24	13	9	10	14	11	15	15	11
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	42	46	46	44	42	44	41	45	12	2	2	16	3	16	16	4
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children								269,000 children								20,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	35	37	35	36	36	37	37	38	30	29	26	30	30	30	30	30
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	44	47	45	45	43	46	46	46	24	25	10	25	25	21	22	18
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children								400,000 children								51,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA								AZ								AR							
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.2	6.9	7.1	N.A.	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.9	9.3	8.9	9.2	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	18	17	14	17	16	12	15	N.A.	41	41	38	39	43	38	41	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births								7,289 births								3,749 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.	6.7	6.9	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	6.4	N.A.	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.7	8.3	7.9	8.5	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	22	25	19	20	25	26	22	N.A.	40	41	41	45	40	37	46	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths								651 deaths								350 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.	26	29	24	24	21	24	22	N.A.	33	30	30	27	34	29	28	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	38	42	34	30	20	34	34	N.A.	47	44	46	42	47	46	44	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths								284 deaths								146 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.	79	88	86	80	85	87	98	N.A.	94	92	94	84	93	94	98	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	37	42	40	35	38	40	49	N.A.	46	47	42	40	42	46	49	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths								419 deaths								192 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.	68	64	61	61	60	58	62	N.A.	66	62	60	59	60	59	62	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	48	48	47	47	46	46	46	N.A.	46	46	46	46	46	47	46	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births								12,824 births								5,946 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7	18	14	12	12	11	9	9	10	12	7	10	6	7	8	6	7
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	50	45	43	49	45	36	41	46	37	7	33	10	20	27	15	23
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens								34,000 teens								11,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	13	11	11	11	10	9	9	11	12	10	10	9	8	9	9	11
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	47	38	41	39	34	31	36	44	43	29	35	29	18	31	36	44
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens								36,000 teens								17,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33	31	32	34	36	34	35	32	33	33	34	35	37	38	36	36	39
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	23	30	30	41	27	30	22	26	32	39	36	44	45	36	40	47
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children								553,000 children								271,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	23	19	20	21	20	20	20	20	25	21	22	24	26	25	24	26
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	45	36	37	41	34	36	36	37	46	43	43	44	47	44	44	48
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children								331,000 children								178,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	33	34	31	35	31	33	33	34	34	31	30	33	38	34	35	35
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	36	41	33	43	29	37	32	38	42	33	28	37	45	39	40	42
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children								530,000 children								226,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

CA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.2	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.8	N.A.
8	7	9	10	8	12	6	N.A.
38,411 births							
5.4	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.0	N.A.
5	5	7	7	6	6	3	N.A.
2,835 deaths							
20	18	18	19	17	17	17	N.A.
12	9	9	11	9	10	15	N.A.
1,239 deaths							
53	58	58	61	59	60	60	N.A.
9	11	10	15	16	16	16	N.A.
1,634 deaths							
47	44	41	40	39	39	40	N.A.
28	28	28	27	25	26	23	N.A.
52,800 births							
10	10	8	7	6	7	6	7
22	30	18	15	13	16	15	23
144,000 teens							
8	10	8	8	8	8	8	8
20	29	22	16	18	19	27	23
182,000 teens							
35	35	36	35	36	36	35	35
40	42	42	36	36	36	37	38
3,287,000 children							
20	18	19	19	19	19	18	17
40	33	34	34	30	30	30	25
1,591,000 children							
30	31	30	30	29	30	31	31
24	33	28	25	20	21	23	22
2,701,000 children							

CO

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.4	8.5	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.2	8.9	N.A.
40	39	40	41	39	41	36	N.A.
6,317 births							
6.2	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.4	5.7	N.A.
13	10	15	18	20	18	13	N.A.
404 deaths							
22	22	21	21	17	21	19	N.A.
22	21	19	20	9	22	20	N.A.
170 deaths							
60	71	74	66	76	60	64	N.A.
12	30	30	21	33	16	22	N.A.
203 deaths							
51	47	47	44	44	43	44	N.A.
35	33	36	34	33	32	30	N.A.
6,719 births							
11	14	11	7	8	8	9	7
30	45	39	15	32	27	41	23
18,000 teens							
6	9	8	9	9	7	8	7
6	22	22	29	27	9	27	16
19,000 teens							
34	27	29	31	31	31	31	31
35	12	11	20	16	16	18	14
372,000 children							
10	13	12	13	15	14	16	16
3	11	8	13	18	11	21	22
192,000 children							
26	26	26	27	26	27	28	28
15	11	10	10	9	8	12	10
311,000 children							

CT

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.4	7.4	7.8	7.5	7.8	8.0	8.1	N.A.
22	21	23	19	19	21	21	N.A.
3,395 births							
6.6	6.1	6.5	5.4	5.5	5.8	6.2	N.A.
19	16	21	8	9	10	19	N.A.
260 deaths							
15	14	13	14	14	14	9	N.A.
3	1	2	3	4	3	1	N.A.
58 deaths							
47	54	48	40	43	43	48	N.A.
3	9	5	1	2	4	5	N.A.
121 deaths							
31	28	26	25	24	23	24	N.A.
7	6	5	4	4	4	4	N.A.
2,875 births							
11	7	6	8	4	4	4	4
30	7	5	30	3	2	2	3
8,000 teens							
8	7	7	7	8	5	5	6
20	7	10	11	18	1	2	7
12,000 teens							
26	25	28	28	27	29	28	29
8	7	7	13	5	11	7	12
239,000 children							
11	10	10	11	10	12	11	11
7	4	2	4	1	5	3	4
89,000 children							
27	26	27	29	27	29	28	28
16	11	15	19	12	16	12	10
221,000 children							

DE

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.6	9.3	9.9	9.4	9.0	9.5	9.3	N.A.
41	46	46	45	39	43	42	N.A.
1,108 births							
9.2	10.7	8.7	9.4	8.6	9.0	8.3	N.A.
48	50	43	49	43	46	44	N.A.
99 deaths							
27	22	27	14	29	18	13	N.A.
39	21	42	3	44	12	4	N.A.
20 deaths							
74	70	65	76	74	58	71	N.A.
28	28	19	32	31	15	28	N.A.
43 deaths							
48	47	46	45	44	44	42	N.A.
30	33	34	35	33	36	28	N.A.
1,263 births							
12	12	10	7	8	9	7	9
37	41	33	15	32	36	27	43
4,000 teens							
9	10	7	6	7	9	7	8
26	29	10	6	12	31	18	23
4,000 teens							
25	26	30	29	30	29	30	31
6	9	15	15	14	11	14	14
65,000 children							
12	14	11	12	14	14	16	15
8	16	5	5	14	11	21	16
29,000 children							
35	32	34	33	35	34	34	34
44	37	42	37	41	39	36	38
65,000 children							

DC

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
11.9	12.1	11.6	10.9	11.1	11.2	11.5	N.A.
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
980 births							
12.0	10.6	11.3	10.5	12.0	14.1	11.3	N.A.
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
96 deaths							
31	33	23	27	36	24	31	N.A.
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
27 deaths							
108	149	168	151	188	173	84	N.A.
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
33 deaths							
53	64	69	60	67	63	48	N.A.
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
999 births							
13	14	12	6	10	8	7	8
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
3,000 teens							
12	14	11	10	13	8	10	11
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
4,000 teens							
44	49	49	54	52	49	46	43
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
49,000 children							
30	32	28	36	34	32	33	23
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
26,000 children							
65	67	62	63	68	65	62	60
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
62,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA 2000	USA 2001	USA 2002	USA 2003	USA 2004	USA 2005	USA 2006	USA 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children							

Key Indicators		FL 2000	FL 2001	FL 2002	FL 2003	FL 2004	FL 2005	FL 2006	FL 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.7	N.A.
	Rank	35	36	36	33	35	36	34	N.A.
	2006 raw data	20,614 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	7.0	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.2	7.3	N.A.
	Rank	27	29	32	32	28	29	32	N.A.
	2006 raw data	1,717 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	24	23	22	21	22	22	23	N.A.
	Rank	30	29	23	20	27	27	39	N.A.
	2006 raw data	695 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	73	68	68	70	67	75	72	N.A.
	Rank	26	25	23	24	25	32	31	N.A.
	2006 raw data	836 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	51	48	44	43	42	42	45	N.A.
	Rank	35	36	31	31	30	30	33	N.A.
	2006 raw data	25,384 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	12	11	9	8	8	8	8	9
	Rank	37	37	30	30	32	27	36	43
	2007 raw data	81,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	8	9	8	8	9	9	9	10
	Rank	20	22	22	16	27	31	36	40
	2007 raw data	92,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	34	31	33	33	32	33	32	32
	Rank	35	27	26	28	19	23	22	20
	2007 raw data	1,284,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	19	17	19	19	18	18	17	17
	Rank	35	32	34	34	27	26	24	25
	2007 raw data	678,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	36	34	35	36	36	36	35	36
	Rank	47	41	45	45	43	45	40	43
	2007 raw data	1,363,000 children							

Key Indicators		GA 2000	GA 2001	GA 2002	GA 2003	GA 2004	GA 2005	GA 2006	GA 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	8.6	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.3	9.5	9.6	N.A.
	Rank	41	41	40	41	43	43	44	N.A.
	2006 raw data	14,232 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	8.5	8.6	8.9	8.5	8.5	8.2	8.1	N.A.
	Rank	41	43	44	43	42	42	42	N.A.
	2006 raw data	1,206 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	25	27	23	23	23	22	21	N.A.
	Rank	33	39	26	29	29	27	26	N.A.
	2006 raw data	400 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	76	78	70	74	68	71	71	N.A.
	Rank	30	36	25	30	28	31	28	N.A.
	2006 raw data	478 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	63	60	56	53	53	53	54	N.A.
	Rank	44	45	43	41	43	43	39	N.A.
	2006 raw data	17,693 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	16	14	13	11	12	10	9	10
	Rank	46	45	47	45	48	47	41	46
	2007 raw data	57,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	14	11	11	11	11	11	9	11
	Rank	48	38	41	39	42	45	36	44
	2007 raw data	61,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	29	32	31	35	34	34	33
	Rank	29	18	22	20	29	26	29	26
	2007 raw data	832,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	18	16	18	19	21	20	20	20
	Rank	33	29	33	34	36	36	36	37
	2007 raw data	490,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	36	34	34	34	35	35	36	36
	Rank	47	41	42	42	41	43	45	43
	2007 raw data	839,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

HI

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.5	8.1	8.3	8.6	7.9	8.2	8.1	N.A.
25	35	34	36	21	24	21	N.A.
1,531 births							
8.1	6.2	7.3	7.5	5.7	6.5	5.6	N.A.
37	18	29	32	15	19	10	N.A.
107 deaths							
15	16	17	18	21	16	21	N.A.
3	5	6	9	20	6	26	N.A.
47 deaths							
41	50	42	54	40	37	57	N.A.
2	4	2	8	1	1	13	N.A.
48 deaths							
46	42	38	37	36	36	41	N.A.
25	26	21	23	20	22	27	N.A.
1,619 births							
5	8	8	5	4	3	6	4
2	14	18	4	3	1	15	3
3,000 teens							
10	13	12	13	10	8	6	9
32	48	45	48	34	19	9	31
6,000 teens							
41	33	35	33	36	34	35	32
49	33	36	28	36	26	37	20
92,000 children							
13	14	14	15	14	13	11	10
12	16	12	23	14	8	3	2
28,000 children							
24	27	29	32	28	27	27	28
6	16	21	33	16	8	9	10
75,000 children							

ID

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.7	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.9	N.A.
15	9	4	6	10	9	8	N.A.
1,671 births							
7.5	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.8	N.A.
32	18	15	19	19	16	25	N.A.
165 deaths							
22	25	23	26	26	23	29	N.A.
22	36	26	41	36	31	45	N.A.
87 deaths							
63	88	74	72	68	56	67	N.A.
16	42	30	27	28	11	25	N.A.
74 deaths							
43	41	39	39	39	38	39	N.A.
23	24	24	24	25	24	21	N.A.
2,140 births							
10	10	9	7	6	9	7	8
22	30	30	15	13	36	27	36
6,000 teens							
11	10	10	8	7	7	6	8
35	29	35	16	12	9	9	23
7,000 teens							
30	33	32	35	36	33	31	32
19	33	22	36	36	23	18	20
129,000 children							
14	15	16	18	20	18	15	16
19	22	24	30	34	26	16	22
64,000 children							
22	24	20	20	23	23	21	22
3	6	2	2	2	2	2	2
85,000 children							

IL

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.9	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	N.A.
31	32	32	31	34	33	32	N.A.
15,577 births							
8.5	7.7	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.2	N.A.
41	36	30	35	31	33	31	N.A.
1,309 deaths							
20	22	20	19	19	17	16	N.A.
12	21	13	11	14	10	9	N.A.
397 deaths							
68	68	65	68	63	62	60	N.A.
23	25	19	23	20	19	16	N.A.
552 deaths							
48	46	42	40	40	39	39	N.A.
30	30	29	27	28	26	21	N.A.
17,752 births							
9	10	8	8	6	7	6	6
17	30	18	30	13	16	15	19
45,000 teens							
9	9	7	8	8	8	7	8
26	22	10	16	18	19	18	23
57,000 teens							
29	31	31	32	32	32	31	31
17	27	21	25	19	20	18	14
987,000 children							
15	15	16	16	17	16	17	17
24	22	24	25	23	22	24	25
525,000 children							
31	30	29	29	28	30	31	31
29	29	21	19	16	21	23	22
938,000 children							

IN

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.4	7.6	7.6	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.2	N.A.
22	22	21	22	26	27	24	N.A.
7,268 births							
7.8	7.5	7.7	7.6	8.0	8.0	8.0	N.A.
36	34	36	34	37	39	40	N.A.
708 deaths							
25	22	22	20	24	25	24	N.A.
33	21	23	16	32	38	41	N.A.
289 deaths							
76	74	73	63	68	64	69	N.A.
30	33	28	19	28	21	27	N.A.
309 deaths							
49	47	45	43	44	43	44	N.A.
32	33	33	31	33	32	30	N.A.
9,549 births							
13	14	13	11	13	9	8	7
40	45	47	45	50	36	36	23
25,000 teens							
10	8	9	8	10	8	8	8
32	14	30	16	34	19	27	23
29,000 teens							
27	27	30	30	33	32	32	32
11	12	15	17	25	20	22	20
503,000 children							
14	13	15	14	15	17	18	17
19	11	20	16	18	23	30	25
268,000 children							
29	29	31	29	28	30	32	32
21	25	33	19	16	21	28	26
472,000 children							

IA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.1	6.4	6.6	6.6	7.0	7.2	6.9	N.A.
5	9	12	10	13	17	8	N.A.
2,809 births							
6.5	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.1	5.3	5.1	N.A.
17	8	5	10	5	6	4	N.A.
208 deaths							
22	23	21	22	21	19	16	N.A.
22	29	19	26	20	15	9	N.A.
86 deaths							
77	59	57	58	45	66	58	N.A.
33	14	8	13	3	24	14	N.A.
127 deaths							
34	33	32	32	32	33	33	N.A.
10	10	10	13	13	16	13	N.A.
3,495 births							
5	4	5	7	3	5	4	4
2	1	3	15	1	4	2	3
7,000 teens							
6	4	5	7	5	6	5	6
6	2	2	11	3	6	2	7
10,000 teens							
23	24	28	26	25	26	27	27
3	3	7	4	2	1	5	4
193,000 children							
13	13	14	12	12	14	14	14
12	11	12	5	6	11	13	14
95,000 children							
25	25	26	25	24	26	26	27
9	9	10	7	4	7	8	7
182,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA								KS								KY							
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	N.A.	8.2	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.8	9.1	9.1	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	17	17	16	18	17	17	17	N.A.	37	37	38	38	38	39	39	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births								2,933 births								5,327 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.	6.8	7.4	7.1	6.6	7.2	7.4	7.1	N.A.	7.2	5.9	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.6	7.5	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	24	31	27	22	29	33	29	N.A.	29	13	28	27	27	22	36	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths								292 deaths								438 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.	25	24	25	24	26	23	21	N.A.	23	28	25	25	24	25	21	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	33	33	38	30	36	31	26	N.A.	27	40	38	36	32	38	26	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths								110 deaths								163 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.	78	80	70	71	57	66	63	N.A.	82	73	85	75	95	83	75	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	35	38	25	26	13	24	21	N.A.	39	31	39	31	44	36	32	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths								128 deaths								212 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.	46	44	43	41	41	41	42	N.A.	55	52	51	50	49	49	55	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	25	28	30	29	29	29	28	N.A.	37	37	37	38	37	38	42	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births								4,109 births								7,412 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7	10	7	7	5	7	6	4	4	10	10	11	9	10	9	9	8
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	22	7	9	4	20	9	2	3	22	30	39	37	41	36	41	36
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens								7,000 teens								19,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	6	7	7	8	6	7	6	6	12	11	12	12	11	11	10	9
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	6	7	10	16	5	9	9	7	43	38	45	46	42	45	43	31
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens								10,000 teens								23,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33	22	23	29	27	27	28	28	27	34	33	35	39	38	38	37	38
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	2	2	11	7	5	6	7	4	35	33	36	46	45	44	45	44
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children								190,000 children								384,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	12	13	16	14	12	15	16	15	22	19	21	24	25	22	23	24
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	8	11	24	16	6	16	21	16	43	36	41	44	46	41	41	45
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children								100,000 children								235,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	27	25	26	27	24	27	28	27	30	27	30	30	30	31	33	33
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	16	9	10	10	4	8	12	7	24	16	28	25	25	26	32	31
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children								179,000 children								304,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

LA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
10.3	10.4	10.4	10.7	10.9	11.5	11.4	N.A.
49	49	49	49	49	49	49	N.A.
7,231 births							
9.0	9.8	10.3	9.3	10.5	10.1	9.9	N.A.
46	48	49	47	50	49	49	N.A.
629 deaths							
32	33	35	28	34	34	26	N.A.
45	47	49	44	47	50	42	N.A.
219 deaths							
85	97	100	96	96	103	89	N.A.
40	49	46	47	45	49	43	N.A.
288 deaths							
62	59	58	56	56	49	54	N.A.
43	44	44	44	44	38	39	N.A.
8,628 births							
11	11	12	12	10	8	11	10
30	37	43	49	41	27	50	46
26,000 teens							
15	12	13	14	13	10	12	12
49	44	49	50	50	40	48	49
32,000 teens							
39	39	39	40	40	42	43	40
47	47	48	48	49	49	50	49
432,000 children							
27	27	27	30	30	28	28	27
50	50	48	50	49	49	49	49
283,000 children							
40	40	42	43	44	42	41	42
49	49	49	49	50	49	49	49
422,000 children							

ME

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.0	6.0	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.8	6.8	N.A.
4	5	5	6	4	10	6	N.A.
967 births							
4.9	6.1	4.4	4.9	5.7	6.9	6.3	N.A.
2	16	1	4	15	26	21	N.A.
89 deaths							
21	16	20	21	22	18	16	N.A.
19	5	13	20	27	12	9	N.A.
34 deaths							
63	65	58	53	60	63	68	N.A.
16	21	10	6	18	20	26	N.A.
61 deaths							
29	27	25	25	24	24	26	N.A.
5	4	4	4	4	6	6	N.A.
1,133 births							
5	7	8	7	5	7	4	5
2	7	18	15	7	16	2	11
4,000 teens							
4	7	10	5	7	7	5	6
1	7	35	4	12	9	2	7
4,000 teens							
34	29	33	31	32	35	34	33
35	18	26	20	19	30	29	26
92,000 children							
12	11	16	13	17	17	18	15
8	5	24	13	23	23	30	16
42,000 children							
24	26	29	27	33	31	31	30
6	11	21	10	34	26	23	18
78,000 children							

MD

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.6	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.1	9.4	N.A.
41	44	42	44	43	39	43	N.A.
7,269 births							
7.6	8.1	7.5	8.2	8.4	7.3	7.9	N.A.
33	39	32	40	41	31	39	N.A.
616 deaths							
21	22	20	20	21	16	18	N.A.
19	21	13	16	20	6	16	N.A.
188 deaths							
71	73	73	77	67	66	64	N.A.
24	31	28	34	25	24	22	N.A.
259 deaths							
41	38	35	33	32	32	34	N.A.
20	17	14	15	13	14	16	N.A.
6,705 births							
11	9	8	6	7	7	6	7
30	23	18	10	20	16	15	23
22,000 teens							
9	9	7	8	7	8	8	8
26	22	10	16	12	19	27	23
26,000 teens							
28	24	28	27	28	28	28	28
14	3	7	7	8	6	7	7
375,000 children							
13	11	11	10	11	11	10	10
12	5	5	3	3	2	1	2
140,000 children							
33	30	32	33	33	32	32	33
36	29	36	37	34	31	28	31
424,000 children							

MA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.1	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.9	N.A.
19	19	19	20	19	20	19	N.A.
6,138 births							
4.6	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.8	N.A.
1	3	3	3	4	4	2	N.A.
370 deaths							
15	15	15	13	12	10	11	N.A.
3	3	4	2	2	2	2	N.A.
127 deaths							
40	43	42	51	46	41	35	N.A.
1	1	2	5	4	3	2	N.A.
158 deaths							
26	25	23	23	22	22	21	N.A.
3	3	2	3	3	3	2	N.A.
4,724 births							
8	5	6	5	8	5	4	5
12	2	5	4	32	4	2	11
20,000 teens							
6	5	5	8	9	5	5	6
6	4	2	16	27	1	2	7
22,000 teens							
31	28	30	31	31	31	30	32
23	16	15	20	16	16	14	20
453,000 children							
14	12	12	12	13	14	12	13
19	9	8	5	10	11	5	11
182,000 children							
29	28	28	28	29	29	28	29
21	20	17	16	20	16	12	14
401,000 children							

MI

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.9	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.4	N.A.
31	32	27	29	30	27	29	N.A.
10,637 births							
8.2	8.0	8.1	8.5	7.6	7.9	7.4	N.A.
39	38	38	43	34	37	33	N.A.
940 deaths							
22	22	22	21	19	21	18	N.A.
22	21	23	20	14	22	16	N.A.
335 deaths							
64	62	63	55	65	57	55	N.A.
18	19	17	10	22	13	11	N.A.
413 deaths							
40	38	35	34	34	32	34	N.A.
19	17	14	16	17	14	16	N.A.
12,322 births							
10	8	7	6	7	7	6	5
22	14	9	10	20	16	15	11
33,000 teens							
9	8	6	7	8	8	8	7
26	14	5	11	18	19	27	16
45,000 teens							
31	31	34	34	34	35	35	36
23	27	30	35	27	30	37	41
885,000 children							
14	15	16	16	18	19	18	19
19	22	24	25	27	30	30	34
468,000 children							
32	31	30	30	31	31	32	32
32	33	28	25	29	26	28	26
753,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA 2000	USA 2001	USA 2002	USA 2003	USA 2004	USA 2005	USA 2006	USA 2007	MN 2000	MN 2001	MN 2002	MN 2003	MN 2004	MN 2005	MN 2006	MN 2007	MS 2000	MS 2001	MS 2002	MS 2003	MS 2004	MS 2005	MS 2006	MS 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	N.A.	10.7	10.7	11.2	11.4	11.6	11.8	12.4	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	5	7	5	4	6	6	3	N.A.	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births								4,807 births								5,698 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.	5.6	5.3	5.4	4.6	4.7	5.1	5.2	N.A.	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.7	9.8	11.3	10.6	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	7	4	6	2	3	2	6	N.A.	50	49	49	50	49	50	50	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths								381 deaths								488 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.	18	17	23	18	18	15	16	N.A.	37	35	37	33	31	33	30	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	9	7	26	9	12	5	9	N.A.	50	50	50	47	45	49	47	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths								150 deaths								172 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.	52	50	57	59	52	49	51	N.A.	103	89	100	89	102	101	91	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	6	4	8	14	10	7	7	N.A.	49	44	46	44	48	48	44	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths								189 deaths								201 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.	30	28	27	27	27	26	28	N.A.	70	67	65	63	62	61	68	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	6	6	6	7	7	7	9	N.A.	50	50	50	48	49	48	50	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births								5,090 births								7,404 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7	7	5	5	7	5	4	4	3	15	15	12	11	10	9	10	8
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	9	2	3	15	7	2	2	2	45	50	43	45	41	36	47	36
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens								9,000 teens								16,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	4	4	5	4	6	5	5	4	11	13	10	12	12	11	12	10
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1	2	2	1	5	1	2	1	35	48	35	46	46	45	48	40
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens								13,000 teens								19,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33	23	26	26	26	29	27	28	28	36	40	40	41	39	43	42	43
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	3	9	4	4	11	4	7	7	44	49	49	50	48	50	48	50
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children								351,000 children								327,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	9	11	12	9	11	12	12	12	26	26	29	29	31	31	30	29
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	2	5	8	2	3	5	5	7	47	49	50	49	50	50	50	50
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children								149,000 children								220,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	21	24	24	23	24	25	25	26	43	42	44	44	42	47	45	44
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1	6	5	5	4	5	4	5	50	50	50	50	49	50	50	50
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children								311,000 children								305,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

MO

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.6	7.6	8.0	8.0	8.3	8.1	8.1	N.A.
27	22	27	25	30	23	21	N.A.
6,555 births							
7.2	7.4	8.5	7.9	7.5	7.5	7.4	N.A.
29	31	42	39	31	35	33	N.A.
603 deaths							
27	24	25	24	26	21	21	N.A.
39	33	38	30	36	22	26	N.A.
232 deaths							
90	91	83	73	80	84	87	N.A.
43	46	38	29	36	38	41	N.A.
358 deaths							
49	46	44	43	43	42	46	N.A.
32	30	31	31	31	30	35	N.A.
9,183 births							
11	12	10	8	7	8	6	7
30	41	33	30	20	27	15	23
25,000 teens							
9	10	9	8	10	9	7	9
26	29	30	16	34	31	18	31
30,000 teens							
31	30	29	29	31	33	32	31
23	23	11	15	16	23	22	14
448,000 children							
16	16	17	16	16	19	19	18
28	29	29	25	21	30	34	32
248,000 children							
32	30	29	30	31	32	32	32
32	29	21	25	29	31	28	26
434,000 children							

MT

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.2	6.9	6.8	6.8	7.6	6.6	7.3	N.A.
8	16	14	13	18	7	18	N.A.
912 births							
6.1	6.7	7.5	6.8	4.5	7.0	5.8	N.A.
12	22	32	26	1	28	14	N.A.
73 deaths							
33	28	23	24	31	25	30	N.A.
47	40	26	30	45	38	47	N.A.
49 deaths							
98	50	100	104	104	87	84	N.A.
47	4	46	49	49	40	37	N.A.
56 deaths							
37	36	36	35	36	35	40	N.A.
14	13	16	18	20	21	23	N.A.
1,283 births							
7	7	8	10	9	7	9	7
9	7	18	39	37	16	41	23
4,000 teens							
7	10	10	10	12	8	8	10
13	29	35	34	46	19	27	40
6,000 teens							
30	38	35	32	33	36	33	34
19	46	36	25	25	36	27	33
74,000 children							
17	20	20	18	19	20	17	18
32	39	37	30	30	36	24	32
40,000 children							
25	27	25	28	27	28	25	26
9	16	8	16	12	12	4	5
54,000 children							

NE

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.8	6.6	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	N.A.
16	14	17	15	13	14	15	N.A.
1,900 births							
7.3	6.8	7.0	5.4	6.6	5.6	5.6	N.A.
31	23	25	8	24	9	10	N.A.
149 deaths							
22	23	23	25	25	22	19	N.A.
22	29	26	36	34	27	20	N.A.
66 deaths							
73	68	72	61	67	65	83	N.A.
26	25	27	15	25	23	35	N.A.
108 deaths							
38	37	37	36	36	34	33	N.A.
15	16	18	21	20	19	13	N.A.
2,112 births							
6	7	7	7	6	5	5	4
5	7	9	15	13	4	10	3
4,000 teens							
5	8	6	7	6	5	6	5
4	14	5	11	5	1	9	3
6,000 teens							
25	24	23	23	24	26	26	26
6	3	1	1	1	1	3	2
116,000 children							
10	14	14	13	13	15	14	15
3	16	12	13	10	16	13	16
65,000 children							
24	24	24	21	23	25	25	27
6	6	5	3	2	5	4	7
115,000 children							

NV

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.2	7.6	7.5	8.1	8.0	8.3	8.3	N.A.
20	22	19	26	22	27	25	N.A.
3,335 births							
6.5	5.7	6.0	5.7	6.4	5.8	6.4	N.A.
17	9	13	13	23	10	22	N.A.
257 deaths							
23	22	19	19	21	24	21	N.A.
27	21	10	11	20	34	26	N.A.
101 deaths							
75	61	77	87	78	75	93	N.A.
29	17	35	43	35	32	47	N.A.
147 deaths							
63	56	54	53	51	50	56	N.A.
44	39	40	41	39	41	44	N.A.
4,287 births							
16	10	12	10	11	11	10	11
46	30	43	39	45	50	47	50
15,000 teens							
16	13	11	11	11	9	11	13
50	48	41	39	42	31	46	50
16,000 teens							
30	29	34	30	36	31	30	32
19	18	30	17	36	16	14	20
215,000 children							
13	15	17	15	19	15	14	15
12	22	29	23	30	16	13	16
100,000 children							
33	28	31	32	31	32	34	33
36	20	33	33	29	31	36	31
204,000 children							

NH

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.3	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.8	7.0	6.9	N.A.
11	13	5	4	10	14	8	N.A.
994 births							
5.7	3.8	5.0	4.0	5.6	5.3	6.1	N.A.
9	1	4	1	12	6	17	N.A.
87 deaths							
14	20	12	12	16	8	12	N.A.
2	16	1	1	6	1	3	N.A.
28 deaths							
55	59	34	46	46	55	38	N.A.
10	14	1	3	4	10	3	N.A.
36 deaths							
23	21	20	18	18	18	19	N.A.
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	N.A.
865 births							
9	5	7	7	7	6	4	4
17	2	9	15	20	9	2	3
3,000 teens							
5	3	6	6	4	6	4	5
4	1	5	6	1	6	1	3
4,000 teens							
24	24	24	27	29	27	26	27
5	3	2	7	11	4	3	4
81,000 children							
6	7	8	8	10	9	10	9
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
26,000 children							
25	23	23	26	26	24	25	25
9	4	3	9	9	4	4	4
72,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA 2000	USA 2001	USA 2002	USA 2003	USA 2004	USA 2005	USA 2006	USA 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children							

Key Indicators		NJ 2000	NJ 2001	NJ 2002	NJ 2003	NJ 2004	NJ 2005	NJ 2006	NJ 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.6	N.A.
	Rank	28	28	27	26	30	24	32	N.A.
	2006 raw data	9,882 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.3	6.5	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.2	5.5	N.A.
	Rank	14	21	10	13	12	4	7	N.A.
	2006 raw data	632 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	15	14	17	15	14	14	13	N.A.
	Rank	3	1	6	6	4	3	4	N.A.
	2006 raw data	209 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	48	44	47	42	49	45	50	N.A.
	Rank	5	2	4	2	7	5	6	N.A.
	2006 raw data	297 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	32	29	27	26	24	23	25	N.A.
	Rank	8	8	6	6	4	4	5	N.A.
	2006 raw data	7,159 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	8	5	4	4	5	6	5	5
	Rank	12	2	2	1	7	9	10	11
	2007 raw data	22,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	7	6	7	5	7	7	7	7
	Rank	13	5	10	4	12	9	18	16
	2007 raw data	33,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	26	27	29	27	28	28	28	28
	Rank	8	12	11	7	8	6	7	7
	2007 raw data	578,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	10	11	11	12	12	12	12	12
	Rank	3	5	5	5	6	5	5	7
	2007 raw data	236,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	25	26	26	27	25	28	28	28
	Rank	9	11	10	10	8	12	12	10
	2007 raw data	550,000 children							

Key Indicators		NM 2000	NM 2001	NM 2002	NM 2003	NM 2004	NM 2005	NM 2006	NM 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.5	8.1	8.5	8.9	N.A.
	Rank	35	28	27	33	26	33	36	N.A.
	2006 raw data	2,668 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.6	6.4	6.3	5.8	6.3	6.1	5.8	N.A.
	Rank	19	20	17	15	20	16	14	N.A.
	2006 raw data	173 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	20	25	24	29	28	31	22	N.A.
	Rank	12	36	34	45	41	48	34	N.A.
	2006 raw data	86 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	99	74	94	97	88	87	84	N.A.
	Rank	48	33	42	48	40	40	37	N.A.
	2006 raw data	124 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	66	63	62	63	61	62	64	N.A.
	Rank	46	47	48	48	48	49	49	N.A.
	2006 raw data	4,628 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	16	9	15	10	12	10	10	8
	Rank	46	23	49	39	48	47	47	36
	2007 raw data	10,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	11	12	10	12	11	12	8
	Rank	35	38	45	34	46	45	48	23
	2007 raw data	10,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	38	35	38	39	37	41	38	38
	Rank	46	42	45	46	43	47	46	44
	2007 raw data	190,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	26	24	27	26	28	26	26	25
	Rank	47	48	48	48	48	47	48	47
	2007 raw data	124,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	33	35	39	37	38	38	37	39
	Rank	36	45	48	47	45	47	46	48
	2007 raw data	177,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

NY

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.3	8.3	N.A.
28	26	24	22	28	27	25	N.A.
20,790 births							
6.4	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.6	N.A.
16	10	13	17	18	10	10	N.A.
1,407 deaths							
17	18	17	16	16	16	14	N.A.
7	9	6	7	6	6	6	N.A.
493 deaths							
47	52	49	48	47	45	43	N.A.
3	7	6	4	6	5	4	N.A.
601 deaths							
33	32	29	28	27	27	26	N.A.
9	9	9	9	7	8	6	N.A.
17,442 births							
9	9	8	7	8	6	6	5
17	23	18	15	32	9	15	11
62,000 teens							
9	10	8	9	9	8	7	7
26	29	22	29	27	19	18	16
81,000 teens							
35	34	34	33	35	35	34	33
40	39	30	28	29	30	29	26
1,463,000 children							
19	19	19	19	21	19	20	19
35	36	34	34	36	30	36	34
844,000 children							
34	35	34	35	34	34	34	34
42	45	42	43	37	39	36	38
1,401,000 children							

NC

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.8	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.1	N.A.
45	43	42	41	39	41	39	N.A.
11,585 births							
8.6	8.5	8.2	8.2	8.8	8.8	8.1	N.A.
44	42	40	40	46	44	42	N.A.
1,033 deaths							
24	22	23	22	21	21	21	N.A.
30	21	26	26	20	22	26	N.A.
352 deaths							
71	79	75	80	77	70	71	N.A.
24	37	33	35	34	30	28	N.A.
435 deaths							
59	55	52	49	49	48	50	N.A.
39	38	38	37	37	37	37	N.A.
14,701 births							
16	14	10	11	9	9	7	8
46	45	33	45	37	36	27	36
40,000 teens							
11	11	9	10	10	9	8	9
35	38	30	34	34	31	27	31
47,000 teens							
35	33	35	36	35	34	34	33
40	33	36	41	29	26	29	26
729,000 children							
19	20	21	19	22	21	20	20
35	39	41	34	41	39	36	37
426,000 children							
33	33	33	33	34	34	35	34
36	39	39	37	37	39	40	38
702,000 children							

ND

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.4	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.7	N.A.
12	6	5	6	7	5	5	N.A.
576 births							
8.1	8.8	6.3	7.3	5.6	6.0	5.8	N.A.
37	45	17	29	12	15	14	N.A.
50 deaths							
19	17	20	25	26	23	23	N.A.
10	7	13	36	36	31	39	N.A.
25 deaths							
52	65	69	85	61	80	87	N.A.
6	21	24	41	19	35	41	N.A.
43 deaths							
27	27	27	27	27	30	27	N.A.
4	4	6	7	7	9	8	N.A.
633 births							
3	6	3	4	3	5	3	2
1	6	1	1	1	4	1	1
1,000 teens							
4	7	3	6	4	5	5	4
1	7	1	6	1	1	2	1
2,000 teens							
29	25	26	25	27	28	24	28
17	7	4	3	5	6	1	7
40,000 children							
15	15	13	14	16	13	13	13
24	22	11	16	21	8	11	11
19,000 children							
23	23	23	24	24	23	24	24
4	4	3	6	4	2	3	3
33,000 children							

OH

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.9	8.0	8.3	8.3	8.5	8.7	8.8	N.A.
31	32	34	31	35	36	35	N.A.
13,180 births							
7.6	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.7	8.3	7.8	N.A.
33	36	37	35	36	43	38	N.A.
1,170 deaths							
23	19	19	20	20	20	20	N.A.
27	14	10	16	18	18	24	N.A.
424 deaths							
58	58	59	57	64	61	56	N.A.
11	11	13	11	21	18	12	N.A.
456 deaths							
46	43	40	39	38	39	40	N.A.
25	27	25	24	23	26	23	N.A.
15,872 births							
10	8	7	7	6	6	5	5
22	14	9	15	13	9	10	11
34,000 teens							
7	8	7	8	8	8	7	6
13	14	10	16	18	19	18	7
43,000 teens							
30	30	32	32	32	34	34	34
19	23	22	25	19	26	29	33
939,000 children							
16	16	17	18	18	19	19	19
28	29	29	30	27	30	34	34
501,000 children							
31	32	33	32	33	32	33	33
29	37	39	33	34	31	32	31
868,000 children							

OK

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.5	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.3	N.A.
25	27	27	21	22	21	25	N.A.
4,503 births							
8.5	7.3	8.1	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.0	N.A.
41	29	38	38	37	40	40	N.A.
432 deaths							
25	31	24	29	27	28	29	N.A.
33	46	34	45	40	45	45	N.A.
201 deaths							
77	84	80	80	88	90	85	N.A.
33	40	37	35	40	45	40	N.A.
214 deaths							
60	58	58	56	56	54	60	N.A.
41	43	44	44	44	44	45	N.A.
7,227 births							
14	13	11	7	6	10	8	8
42	44	39	15	13	47	36	36
16,000 teens							
11	12	7	11	9	10	9	9
35	44	10	39	27	40	36	31
19,000 teens							
33	30	33	33	36	35	36	35
32	23	26	28	36	30	40	38
315,000 children							
19	20	22	22	21	23	24	22
35	39	43	42	36	42	44	41
199,000 children							
30	31	32	29	34	32	34	33
24	33	36	19	37	31	36	31
277,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA 2000	USA 2001	USA 2002	USA 2003	USA 2004	USA 2005	USA 2006	USA 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children							

Key Indicators		OR 2000	OR 2001	OR 2002	OR 2003	OR 2004	OR 2005	OR 2006	OR 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	5.6	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	N.A.
	Rank	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	N.A.
	2006 raw data	2,963 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.5	N.A.
	Rank	7	5	11	10	9	13	7	N.A.
	2006 raw data	267 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	21	18	21	22	19	18	20	N.A.
	Rank	19	9	19	26	14	12	24	N.A.
	2006 raw data	131 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	66	53	62	57	53	51	51	N.A.
	Rank	19	8	15	11	11	8	7	N.A.
	2006 raw data	126 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	43	40	37	34	33	33	36	N.A.
	Rank	23	22	18	16	15	16	20	N.A.
	2006 raw data	4,285 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	8	6	8	6	7	7	7
	Rank	30	14	5	30	13	16	27	23
	2007 raw data	14,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	10	10	7	9	8	8	8	9
	Rank	32	29	10	29	18	19	27	31
	2007 raw data	17,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	36	37	34	35	35	38	34	35
	Rank	44	45	30	36	29	44	29	38
	2007 raw data	301,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	18	18	17	18	19	18	17	17
	Rank	33	33	29	30	30	26	24	25
	2007 raw data	143,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	32	29	28	28	29	29	29	29
	Rank	32	25	17	16	20	16	18	14
	2007 raw data	238,000 children							

Key Indicators		PA 2000	PA 2001	PA 2002	PA 2003	PA 2004	PA 2005	PA 2006	PA 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.7	7.9	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.5	N.A.
	Rank	28	28	32	26	28	32	31	N.A.
	2006 raw data	12,562 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	7.1	7.2	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.6	N.A.
	Rank	28	27	35	29	29	31	37	N.A.
	2006 raw data	1,138 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	20	20	21	19	19	19	18	N.A.
	Rank	12	16	19	11	14	15	16	N.A.
	2006 raw data	381 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	60	65	67	67	65	67	61	N.A.
	Rank	12	21	22	22	22	28	20	N.A.
	2006 raw data	544 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	34	33	32	31	30	30	31	N.A.
	Rank	10	10	10	10	10	9	11	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,599 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	7	8	9	8	5	7	6	6
	Rank	9	14	30	30	7	16	15	19
	2007 raw data	41,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	7	8	8	7	6	7	7	7
	Rank	13	14	22	11	5	9	18	16
	2007 raw data	50,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	28	29	32	31	32	32	31	33
	Rank	14	18	22	20	19	20	18	26
	2007 raw data	906,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	15	15	15	16	17	17	17	16
	Rank	24	22	20	25	23	23	24	22
	2007 raw data	447,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	29	29	30	30	30	31	31	31
	Rank	21	25	28	25	25	26	23	22
	2007 raw data	823,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

RI

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.2	7.3	7.9	8.5	8.0	7.8	8.0	N.A.
20	20	24	33	22	19	20	N.A.
988 births							
6.3	6.8	7.0	6.7	5.3	6.5	6.1	N.A.
14	23	25	24	8	19	17	N.A.
76 deaths							
17	15	14	14	11	20	16	N.A.
7	3	3	3	1	18	9	N.A.
29 deaths							
52	48	52	65	54	39	34	N.A.
6	3	7	20	12	2	1	N.A.
28 deaths							
34	36	36	31	33	31	28	N.A.
10	13	16	10	15	12	9	N.A.
1,127 births							
10	9	7	7	9	8	7	6
22	23	9	15	37	27	27	19
4,000 teens							
7	8	6	9	9	8	7	6
13	14	5	29	27	19	18	7
4,000 teens							
34	32	35	33	37	36	32	34
35	30	36	28	43	36	22	33
79,000 children							
16	18	15	17	21	19	15	17
28	33	20	29	36	30	16	25
40,000 children							
32	34	33	32	39	33	35	33
32	41	39	33	47	37	40	31
74,000 children							

SC

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
9.7	9.6	10.0	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.1	N.A.
47	47	48	48	47	47	47	N.A.
6,292 births							
8.7	8.9	9.3	8.3	9.3	9.4	8.4	N.A.
45	46	47	42	48	47	45	N.A.
522 deaths							
25	26	27	25	25	25	22	N.A.
33	38	42	36	34	38	34	N.A.
178 deaths							
86	87	93	82	86	84	75	N.A.
41	41	41	38	39	38	32	N.A.
237 deaths							
58	56	53	51	52	51	53	N.A.
38	39	39	39	40	42	38	N.A.
8,175 births							
14	9	11	7	10	9	8	9
42	23	39	15	41	36	36	43
23,000 teens							
12	9	9	8	10	10	10	9
43	22	30	16	34	40	43	31
25,000 teens							
31	33	36	36	35	36	36	34
23	33	42	41	29	36	40	33
358,000 children							
19	20	20	19	23	23	22	21
35	39	37	34	42	42	40	40
218,000 children							
35	37	36	38	40	38	40	38
44	47	47	48	48	47	48	46
372,000 children							

SD

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.2	6.4	7.2	6.6	6.9	6.6	7.0	N.A.
8	9	17	10	12	7	14	N.A.
836 births							
5.5	7.4	6.5	6.7	8.2	7.2	6.9	N.A.
6	31	21	24	39	29	26	N.A.
82 deaths							
35	33	31	36	39	29	22	N.A.
49	47	47	48	50	46	34	N.A.
32 deaths							
78	66	94	82	80	96	80	N.A.
35	24	42	38	36	47	34	N.A.
46 deaths							
38	38	38	35	38	38	40	N.A.
15	17	21	18	23	24	23	N.A.
1,123 births							
8	8	8	7	4	7	7	6
12	14	18	15	3	16	27	19
3,000 teens							
6	6	8	8	5	8	6	7
6	5	22	16	3	19	9	16
3,000 teens							
21	21	24	24	25	30	29	26
1	1	2	2	2	14	13	2
52,000 children							
14	14	14	14	15	18	17	17
19	16	12	16	18	26	24	25
33,000 children							
23	21	24	22	27	28	27	32
4	2	5	4	12	12	9	26
60,000 children							

TN

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
9.2	9.2	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.6	N.A.
46	45	45	45	42	43	44	N.A.
8,108 births							
9.1	8.7	9.4	9.3	8.6	8.9	8.7	N.A.
47	44	48	47	43	45	47	N.A.
733 deaths							
28	23	25	25	23	24	22	N.A.
43	29	38	36	29	34	34	N.A.
245 deaths							
90	83	94	76	96	79	91	N.A.
43	39	42	32	45	34	44	N.A.
367 deaths							
59	57	54	53	52	55	55	N.A.
39	42	40	41	40	45	42	N.A.
10,784 births							
11	10	10	8	11	8	6	7
30	30	33	30	45	27	15	23
24,000 teens							
11	9	9	11	11	11	9	9
35	22	30	39	42	45	36	31
29,000 teens							
32	34	34	33	35	36	36	36
29	39	30	28	29	36	40	41
535,000 children							
20	21	20	20	21	21	23	23
40	43	37	40	36	39	41	42
331,000 children							
33	33	32	33	34	35	35	36
36	39	36	37	37	43	40	43
495,000 children							

TX

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.4	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.3	8.4	N.A.
22	22	22	22	22	27	29	N.A.
33,727 births							
5.7	5.9	6.4	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.2	N.A.
9	13	19	22	20	22	19	N.A.
2,486 deaths							
24	24	23	24	23	21	21	N.A.
30	33	26	30	29	22	26	N.A.
1,044 deaths							
76	70	74	72	66	66	64	N.A.
30	28	30	27	24	24	22	N.A.
1,104 deaths							
69	66	64	63	63	62	63	N.A.
49	49	49	48	50	49	48	N.A.
53,093 births							
14	11	10	9	9	8	7	8
42	37	33	37	37	27	27	36
116,000 teens							
11	10	12	10	10	9	9	9
35	29	45	34	34	31	36	31
135,000 teens							
32	32	33	33	35	35	34	33
29	30	26	28	29	30	29	26
2,183,000 children							
22	21	22	23	23	25	24	23
43	43	43	43	42	44	44	42
1,513,000 children							
31	30	29	30	32	32	33	32
29	29	21	25	33	31	32	26
2,001,000 children							

Appendix 1: Multi-Year State Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Key Indicators

Key Indicators		USA 2000	USA 2001	USA 2002	USA 2003	USA 2004	USA 2005	USA 2006	USA 2007	UT 2000	UT 2001	UT 2002	UT 2003	UT 2004	UT 2005	UT 2006	UT 2007	VT 2000	VT 2001	VT 2002	VT 2003	VT 2004	VT 2005	VT 2006	VT 2007
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	N.A.	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	N.A.	6.1	5.9	6.4	7.0	6.4	6.2	6.9	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	14	9	9	6	8	10	8	N.A.	5	4	9	16	4	4	8	N.A.
	2006 raw data	351,974 births								3,700 births								447 births							
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	N.A.	5.2	4.8	5.6	5.0	5.2	4.5	5.1	N.A.	6.0	5.5	4.4	5.0	4.5	6.5	5.5	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	3	2	9	5	6	1	4	N.A.	11	7	1	5	1	19	7	N.A.
	2006 raw data	28,527 deaths								273 deaths								36 deaths							
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	21	20	20	19	N.A.	20	20	23	21	21	22	19	N.A.	13	19	15	16	12	26	18	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	12	16	26	20	20	27	20	N.A.	1	14	4	7	2	42	16	N.A.
	2006 raw data	10,780 deaths								116 deaths								18 deaths							
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	67	67	68	66	66	65	64	N.A.	60	61	65	61	50	56	54	N.A.	66	58	60	53	50	68	54	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	12	17	19	15	8	11	9	N.A.	19	11	14	6	8	29	9	N.A.
	2006 raw data	13,739 deaths								110 deaths								25 deaths							
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	Rate	48	45	43	42	41	40	42	N.A.	38	38	37	35	34	33	34	N.A.	23	24	24	19	21	19	21	N.A.
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	15	17	18	18	17	16	16	N.A.	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	N.A.
	2006 raw data	435,436 births								3,498 births								468 births							
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	10	9	8	8	7	7	7	6	8	7	6	5	7	6	5	6	8	8	5	4	5	4	4
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	5	14	9	10	7	16	15	11	5	14	18	4	3	4	2	3
	2007 raw data	1,172,000 teens								9,000 teens								1,000 teens							
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	8	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	4	6	7	5	5
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	20	7	10	16	5	6	9	7	13	7	10	1	5	9	2	3
	2007 raw data	1,428,000 teens								11,000 teens								2,000 teens							
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	32	31	33	33	33	34	33	33	26	26	30	26	26	26	25	24	28	30	28	27	28	31	30	31
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	8	9	15	4	4	1	2	1	14	23	7	7	8	16	14	14
	2007 raw data	24,281,000 children								198,000 children								41,000 children							
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007)	Rate	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	10	9	14	12	13	11	12	11	13	15	10	12	12	15	13	12
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	3	2	12	5	10	2	5	4	12	22	2	5	6	16	11	7
	2007 raw data	13,097,000 children								89,000 children								16,000 children							
Percent of children in single-parent families	Rate	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	21	17	18	17	17	18	18	18	25	26	25	27	26	31	29	31
	Rank	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	11	8	10	9	26	18	22
	2007 raw data	22,282,000 children								143,000 children								39,000 children							

N.A.=Not Available. *N.R.=Not Ranked.*

VA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
7.9	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	N.A.
31	28	24	29	30	24	25	N.A.
8,914 births							
6.9	7.6	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.1	N.A.
26	35	30	35	31	35	29	N.A.
765 deaths							
20	18	20	21	18	19	16	N.A.
12	9	13	20	12	15	9	N.A.
218 deaths							
67	60	64	62	59	57	60	N.A.
22	16	18	18	16	13	16	N.A.
316 deaths							
41	40	38	36	35	34	35	N.A.
20	22	21	21	19	19	19	N.A.
9,105 births							
9	7	8	5	7	6	5	5
17	7	18	4	20	9	10	11
22,000 teens							
7	8	8	6	8	7	6	7
13	14	22	6	18	9	9	16
30,000 teens							
27	27	27	27	29	28	27	28
11	12	6	7	11	6	5	7
508,000 children							
13	12	14	12	13	13	12	13
12	9	12	5	10	8	5	11
234,000 children							
28	28	28	29	29	29	29	30
18	20	17	19	20	16	18	18
513,000 children							

WA

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
5.6	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.5	N.A.
1	3	3	1	3	1	3	N.A.
5,641 births							
5.2	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.1	4.7	N.A.
3	10	11	10	9	2	1	N.A.
407 deaths							
19	18	19	19	16	16	14	N.A.
10	9	10	11	6	6	6	N.A.
168 deaths							
60	56	58	54	57	53	60	N.A.
12	10	10	8	13	9	16	N.A.
262 deaths							
39	36	33	32	31	31	33	N.A.
18	13	13	13	12	12	13	N.A.
7,110 births							
9	9	8	6	7	7	6	7
17	23	18	10	20	16	15	23
25,000 teens							
8	9	8	10	9	9	7	8
20	22	22	34	27	31	18	23
30,000 teens							
31	33	38	35	38	36	34	34
23	33	45	36	45	36	29	33
530,000 children							
16	14	15	14	17	15	15	15
28	16	20	16	23	16	16	16
226,000 children							
28	27	27	29	30	28	29	29
18	16	15	19	25	12	18	14
420,000 children							

WV

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.3	8.5	9.0	8.6	9.3	9.6	9.7	N.A.
38	39	42	36	43	46	46	N.A.
2,024 births							
7.6	7.2	9.1	7.3	7.6	8.1	7.4	N.A.
33	27	45	29	34	40	33	N.A.
155 deaths							
30	21	24	24	28	26	19	N.A.
44	19	34	30	41	42	20	N.A.
55 deaths							
88	75	103	90	94	87	84	N.A.
42	35	50	46	43	40	37	N.A.
100 deaths							
47	46	46	45	44	43	45	N.A.
28	30	34	35	33	32	33	N.A.
2,589 births							
8	9	8	10	7	9	8	7
12	23	18	39	20	36	36	23
7,000 teens							
11	11	11	11	10	11	10	10
35	38	41	39	34	45	43	40
10,000 teens							
40	39	38	37	36	39	39	38
48	47	45	44	36	46	47	44
149,000 children							
26	23	25	25	24	26	25	23
47	46	47	47	45	47	47	42
86,000 children							
30	28	29	31	29	30	31	29
24	20	21	32	20	21	23	14
105,000 children							

WI

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
6.5	6.6	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	N.A.
13	14	12	13	13	14	8	N.A.
4,974 births							
6.6	7.1	6.9	6.5	6.0	6.6	6.4	N.A.
19	26	24	20	17	22	22	N.A.
462 deaths							
20	21	20	20	17	20	15	N.A.
12	19	13	16	9	18	8	N.A.
154 deaths							
66	64	62	70	57	64	59	N.A.
19	20	15	24	13	21	15	N.A.
238 deaths							
35	34	32	31	30	30	31	N.A.
13	12	10	10	10	9	11	N.A.
6,015 births							
6	8	7	4	7	6	5	4
5	14	9	1	20	9	10	3
14,000 teens							
6	7	7	4	7	7	6	5
6	7	10	1	12	9	9	3
18,000 teens							
27	29	30	30	30	30	28	29
11	18	15	17	14	14	7	12
385,000 children							
12	14	14	14	14	14	15	14
8	16	12	16	14	11	16	14
187,000 children							
28	28	28	27	28	29	28	30
18	20	17	10	16	16	12	18
373,000 children							

WY

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
8.3	8.3	8.4	8.9	8.6	8.6	8.9	N.A.
38	37	36	39	37	35	36	N.A.
682 births							
6.7	5.9	6.7	5.8	8.8	6.8	7.0	N.A.
22	13	23	15	46	25	28	N.A.
54 deaths							
27	29	34	37	20	20	31	N.A.
39	42	48	49	18	18	49	N.A.
29 deaths							
81	89	77	85	74	103	83	N.A.
38	44	35	41	31	49	35	N.A.
31 deaths							
42	39	40	41	43	43	47	N.A.
22	21	25	29	31	32	36	N.A.
850 births							
10	11	7	5	7	8	7	7
22	37	9	4	20	27	27	23
2,000 teens							
6	8	6	6	6	7	6	6
6	14	5	6	5	9	9	7
2,000 teens							
33	28	30	28	32	29	33	31
32	16	15	13	19	11	27	14
39,000 children							
15	13	14	12	14	11	12	12
24	11	12	5	14	2	5	7
14,000 children							
25	22	29	25	27	27	27	33
9	3	21	7	12	8	9	31
38,000 children							

Appendix 2: Multi-Year State Trend Data for Overall Ranks

The 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is the 20th annual profile of child well-being produced by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. However, indicators used in the *Data Books* have changed over time, making year-to-year comparisons of state ranks problematic. This Appendix provides Overall Ranks for 2000 through 2007 for each state using a consistent set of indicators—namely, those used to derive the rank reported in the 2009 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*. This Appendix is the best source of information to see whether a particular state improved in ranking over the past few years.

Note that state ranks in 2007 are based on data from 2006 for five measures and data from 2007 for the other five measures. In other words, data for the Percent Low-Birthweight Babies, Infant Mortality Rate, Child Death Rate, Teen Death Rate, and Teen Birth Rate lag one year behind the other measures.

	AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE
2000	48	30	40	46	20	22	11	26
2001	48	38	39	46	22	26	7	37
2002	48	33	43	45	18	22	7	36
2003	48	36	41	44	17	27	11	31
2004	43	35	37	45	18	25	3	29
2005	48	38	36	45	19	23	3	35
2006	47	31	39	45	22	28	4	33
2007	48	35	40	47	20	22	4	29

	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC
2000	21	10	39	1	9	45	24	43
2001	32	13	31	1	5	43	25	45
2002	29	10	34	1	5	47	19	41
2003	34	12	32	1	4	46	22	40
2004	34	8	36	1	7	48	22	41
2005	29	10	33	2	9	47	18	39
2006	29	9	36	1	6	48	20	38
2007	30	11	39	1	9	43	17	37

FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN	MS	MO	
35	44	14	25	29	32	6	17	37	49	5	31	8	28	2	50	34	2000
33	42	21	23	29	30	6	15	36	49	8	19	3	27	2	50	34	2001
35	44	23	25	30	31	9	20	39	49	15	27	3	24	2	50	32	2002
35	39	24	16	28	30	9	15	42	49	7	21	6	26	3	50	33	2003
33	44	21	20	24	32	5	12	42	49	11	23	10	27	4	50	30	2004
32	41	11	22	26	31	7	16	40	49	15	24	5	27	1	50	34	2005
35	40	13	14	24	34	8	18	41	49	16	19	3	27	2	50	32	2006
36	42	18	26	24	31	6	13	41	49	12	25	5	27	2	50	33	2007

ND	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY	
7	27	41	23	18	15	47	16	42	36	4	3	19	13	38	12	33	2000
10	28	40	20	17	18	44	11	47	35	4	9	16	12	41	14	24	2001
4	26	40	11	21	14	46	17	42	37	8	6	16	13	38	12	28	2002
5	29	38	18	25	20	45	19	43	37	8	2	13	14	47	10	23	2003
9	26	40	15	16	31	47	14	46	39	6	2	19	17	38	13	28	2004
8	28	42	17	21	20	46	30	43	37	4	6	14	13	44	12	25	2005
7	30	43	17	23	21	46	25	42	37	5	10	15	11	44	12	26	2006
7	28	44	19	23	15	45	21	46	34	3	8	16	14	38	10	32	2007

Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) is the number of deaths to children between ages 1 and 14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age range. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. SOURCES: **Death Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Child Poverty Rate See Percent of Children in Poverty.

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) is the number of deaths occurring to infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place of death. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Overall Rank for each state was obtained in the following manner. First, we converted the 2007 (or 2006, depending on the indicator) state numerical values for each of the 10 key indicators into standard scores. We then summed those standard scores to create a total standard score for each of the 50 states. Finally, we ranked the states on the basis of their total standard score in sequential order from highest/best (1) to lowest/worst (50). Standard scores were derived by subtracting the mean score from the observed score and dividing the amount by the standard deviation for that distribution of scores. All measures were given the same weight in calculating the total standard score.

Percent Change Over Time analysis was computed by comparing the 2007 (or 2006, depending on the indicator) data for each of the 10 key indicators with the data for 2000. To calculate percent change, we subtracted the value for 2000 from the value for 2006/2007 and then divided that quantity by the value for 2000. The results are multiplied by 100 for readability. The percent change was calculated on rounded data, and the "percent change" figure has been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies is the percentage of live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). The data reflect the mother's place of residence, not the place where the birth occurred. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Percent of Children in Poverty (income below $21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007) is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition and is updated every year to account for inflation. In calendar year 2007, a family of two adults and two children fell in the "poverty" category if their annual income fell below $21,027. Poverty status is not determined for people living in group quarters, such as military barracks, prisons, and other institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Find detailed definitions and listings of data sources at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org

SOURCES: State-level data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. County-level data used in maps from U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program (SAIPE).

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own single parent, either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment is the share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. For children living in single-parent families, this means that the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. For children living in married-couple families, this means that neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. Children living with neither parent also were listed as not having secure parental employment because those children are likely to be economically vulnerable. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19) is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full- or part-time) and not employed (full- or part-time). This measure is sometimes referred to as "Idle Teens" or "Disconnected Youth." Inclusion of the group quarters population in the ACS in 2007 could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the 2007 ACS estimates might not be fully comparable to estimates prior to 2006. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (ages 16–19) is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates. Those who have a GED or equivalent are included as high school graduates in this measure. The measure used here is defined as a "status dropout" rate. Inclusion of the group quarters population in the ACS in 2007 could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the 2007 ACS estimates might not be fully comparable to estimates prior to 2006. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19) is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than the place of the birth. SOURCES: **Birth Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19) is the number of deaths from all causes to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. SOURCES: **Death Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Total Children Under Age 18 in 2007 are estimates of the total resident population under age 18 as of July 1, 2007, including Armed Forces personnel stationed in the area and their dependents. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, *State Characteristics Population Estimates File* (vintage 2007).

Criteria for Selecting KIDS COUNT Indicators

Over the past several years, we have developed a set of criteria to select the statistical indicators published in the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* for the purposes of measuring change over time and ranking the states. The criteria are designed to meet our twin goals of using only the highest quality data and communicating clearly and concisely. The criteria are described below.

1. The statistical indicator must be from a reliable source. All of the indicator data used in this book come from U.S. government agencies. Most of the data have already been published or released to the public in some other form before we use them. We work with a small circle of data experts to examine and re-examine the quality of the data used in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* each year.

2. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent over time. Changes in methodologies, practice, or policies may affect year-to-year comparability. Program and administrative data are particularly vulnerable to changes in policies and/or program administration, resulting in data that are not comparable across states or over time.

3. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent for all states. In practice, this means data collected by the federal government or some other national organization. Much of the data collected by states may be accurate and reliable and may be useful for assessing changes over time in a single state, but unless all of the states follow the same data collection and reporting procedures, the data are likely to be inconsistent across states. Without data for every state, we would not be able to construct an overall composite index of child well-being.

4. The statistical indicator should reflect a salient outcome or measure of well-being. We focus on outcome measures rather than programmatic or service data (such as dollars spent on education or welfare costs), which are not always related to the actual well-being of children. This focus reflects our ultimate aim of improving child well-being, regardless of the policies or programs used to achieve this goal.

5. The statistical indicator must be easily understandable to the public. We are trying to reach an educated lay public, not academic scholars or researchers. Measures that are too complex or esoteric cannot be communicated effectively.

6. The statistical indicator must have a relatively unambiguous interpretation. If the value of an indicator changes over time, we want to be sure there is widespread agreement that this is a good thing (or a bad thing) for kids.

7. There should be a high probability that the measure will continue to be produced in the near future. We want to establish a series of indicators that can be produced year after year to track trends in the well-being of children in each state. Therefore, we are reluctant to use data from a one-time survey, even though it may provide good information about kids.

Over the past few years, we have produced several *KIDS COUNT Working Papers* focused on the KIDS COUNT data and methodology. These are available at www.kidscount.org. For additional information on characteristics of good indicators of child well-being, see *Key Indicators of Child and Youth Well-Being: Completing the Picture,* 2008, Brett V. Brown (Ed.), Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, New York, NY.

The KIDS COUNT State Network

The Annie E. Casey Foundation provides funding and technical assistance for a national network of KIDS COUNT projects in every state, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. These projects, listed on the following pages, measure and report on the status of children at the state and local levels. They use the data to inform public debates and encourage public action to improve the lives of children.

The state KIDS COUNT projects publish a range of data-driven materials—state data books, special reports, issue briefs, and fact sheets—that help policymakers and citizens identify the needs of children and families and develop appropriate responses to address these needs. Much of the local-level data collected by the state KIDS COUNT grantees is available at datacenter.kidscount.org.

Please visit www.kidscount.org for more information about the network of state KIDS COUNT grantees, including mailing addresses.

Alabama VOICES for Alabama's Children www.alavoices.org	Melanie Bridgeforth *Policy Analyst/KIDS COUNT Director* (334) 213-2410 ext. 104 mbridgeforth@alavoices.org
Alaska KIDS COUNT Alaska www.kidscount.alaska.edu	Virgene Hanna *Project Director* (907) 786-5431 anvh@uaa.alaska.edu
Arizona Children's Action Alliance www.azchildren.org	Dana Wolfe Naimark *President and CEO* (602) 266-0707 dnaimark@azchildren.org
Arkansas Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families www.aradvocates.org	Richard Huddleston *Executive Director* (501) 371-9678 ext. 114 rhuddleston@aradvocates.org
California Children Now www.childrennow.org	Jessica Mindnich *Senior Associate, Research* (510) 763-2444 ext. 115 jmindnich@childrennow.org
Colorado Colorado Children's Campaign www.coloradokids.org	Lisa Piscopo *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* (303) 839-1580 ext. 271 lisa@coloradokids.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

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Connecticut Association for Human Services
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District of Columbia
DC Children's Trust Fund
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Delaware
University of Delaware
www.dekidscount.org

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Florida
Center for the Study of Children's Futures
www.floridakidscount.org

Susan Weitzel
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Georgia
Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Inc.
www.gafcp.org

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Center on the Family
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Mountain States Group
www.idahokidscount.org

Linda Jensen
KIDS COUNT Director
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Voices for Illinois Children
www.voices4kids.org

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Kansas
Kansas Action for Children
www.kac.org

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Kentucky
Kentucky Youth Advocates, Inc.
www.kyyouth.org

Tara Grieshop-Goodwin
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Louisiana Agenda for Children www.agendaforchildren.org	Teresa Falgoust *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* (504) 586-8509 ext. 117 TFalgoust@agendaforchildren.org	**Mississippi** Family & Children Research Unit www.ssrc.msstate.edu/mskidscount	Linda Southward *MS KIDS COUNT Director* (662) 325-0851 Linda.Southward@ssrc.msstate.edu
Maine Maine Children's Alliance www.mekids.org	Claire Berkowitz *KIDS COUNT Research Coordinator* (207) 623-1868 ext. 206 cberk@mekids.org	**Missouri** Citizens for Missouri's Children www.mokids.org	Emily Schwartze *Director of Programs and Policy* (314) 647-2003 ext. 205 eschwartze@mokids.org
Maryland Advocates for Children & Youth, Inc. www.acy.org	Matthew Joseph *Executive Director* (410) 547-9200 ext. 3009 mjoseph@acy.org	**Montana** Bureau of Business & Economic Research www.montanakidscount.org	Daphne Herling *Director* (406) 243-5614 daphne.herling@business.umt.edu
Massachusetts Massachusetts Citizens for Children www.masskids.org	Benita Danzing *KIDS COUNT Project Director* (617) 742-8555 ext. 5 benita@masskids.org	**Nebraska** Voices for Children in Nebraska www.voicesforchildren.com	Annemarie Bailey Fowler *Research & Opportunity@Work Coordinator* (402) 597-3100 kidscount@voicesforchildren.com
Michigan Michigan League for Human Services www.milhs.org	Jane Zehnder-Merrell *MI KIDS COUNT Project Director* (517) 487-5436 janez@michleagueforhumansvs.org	**Nevada** Center for Business and Economic Research http://kidscount.unlv.edu	R. Keith Schwer *Director* (702) 895-3191 keith.schwer@gmail.com
Minnesota Children's Defense Fund—Minnesota www.cdf-mn.org	Kara Arzamendia *Research Director* (651) 855-1184 arzamendia@cdf-mn.org	**New Hampshire** Children's Alliance of New Hampshire www.ChildrenNH.org	Ellen Fineberg *President* (603) 225-2264 EFineberg@ChildrenNH.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

New Jersey	Association for Children of New Jersey www.acnj.org	Sheldon Presser *NJ KIDS COUNT Coordinator* (973) 643-3876 spresser@acnj.org	
New Mexico	New Mexico Voices for Children www.nmvoices.org	Lisa Adams-Shafer *KIDS COUNT Program Director* (505) 244-9505 ext. 34 ladamsshafer@nmvoices.org	
New York	New York State Council on Children & Families www.ccf.state.ny.us	Mary DeMasi *NYS KIDS COUNT Project Director* (518) 473-3652 mary.demasi@ccf.state.ny.us	
North Carolina	Action for Children North Carolina www.ncchild.org	Alexandra Sirota *Director of Policy and Research* (919) 834-6623 ext. 225 alexandra@ncchild.org	
North Dakota	North Dakota State University www.ndkidscount.org	Polly Fassinger *Program Director, ND KIDS COUNT* (701) 231-5931 Polly.Fassinger@gmail.com	
Ohio	Children's Defense Fund Ohio www.childrensdefense.org	Barbara Turpin *KIDS COUNT Project Director* (614) 221-2244 bturpin@cdfohio.org	
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy www.oica.org	Anne Roberts *Executive Director* (405) 236-5437 ext. 101 aroberts@oica.org	
Oregon	Children First for Oregon www.cffo.org	Cathy Kaufmann *Policy & Communications Director* (503) 236-9754 ext. 107 cathy@cffo.org	
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children www.papartnerships.org	Joan Benso *President and CEO* (717) 236-5680 president@papartnerships.org	
Puerto Rico	National Council of La Raza http://kidscount.nclr.org	Nayda Rivera-Hernandez *Senior Research Analyst* (787) 641-0544 nrivera@nclr.org	
Rhode Island	Rhode Island KIDS COUNT www.rikidscount.org	Elizabeth Burke Bryant *Executive Director* (401) 351-9400 ext. 12 ebb@rikidscount.org	
South Carolina	South Carolina Budget & Control Board www.sckidscount.org	A. Baron Holmes *KIDS COUNT Project Director* (803) 734-2291 baron.holmes@ors.sc.gov	

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About the Annie E. Casey Foundation and KIDS COUNT

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
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The Annie E. Casey Foundation is a private charitable organization dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children in the United States. It was established in 1948 by Jim Casey, one of the founders of UPS, and his siblings, who named the Foundation in honor of their mother. The primary mission of the Foundation is to foster public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of today's vulnerable children and families. In pursuit of this goal, the Foundation makes grants that help states, cities, and communities fashion more innovative, cost-effective responses to these needs.

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children. At the national level, the principal activities of the initiative are the publication of the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and the maintenance of the KIDS COUNT Data Center, which use the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. The Foundation also funds a nationwide network of state-level KIDS COUNT projects that provide a more detailed, community-by-community picture of the condition of children.

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